

AMATEUR RADIO

AUGUST 1963



Vol. 31, No. 8



REMEMBRANCE DAY CONTEST — — 17th and 18th AUGUST

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FEDERAL COMMENT



REMEMBRANCE DAY CONTEST

Once again our most popular Australian Contest is with us and serious
contestants are preparing their gear to better their scores of last year. The
changes to the Contest are few—however, two alterations agreed at Perth
in 1962 have been made by way of amendment to the Rules published
last month. The details of these changes are shown elsewhere in this issue.

The two amendments allow any Australian Amateur to obtain a
certificate if he be a member of the W.I.A. or not. The other is the inclu-
sion of the A.C.T. as a separate call area for certificate purposes, although,
until formed as a Division, the A.C.T. may not win the perpetual State
Trophy. Negotiations are also in hand to invite Sir Rohan Delacombe, the
new Governor of Victoria, to deliver the opening address prior to the
commencement of the Contest.

This year's Contest, like its predecessors, therefore promises to be a
"bumper" one. We hope every entrant to the Contest will listen to the
opening address, at that time give a little thought to the reason for the
Contest, and carry the spirit and intent into the Contest itself—adopt good
operating procedures, be unselfish, help your State to win by submitting
your log, and most of all, enjoy yourself. Good luck.

NEW COMPONENTS

Every Amateur is interested in new components arriving on the
market, or materials which will help improve or simplify his station
equipment. One generally "window shops" at the popular radio houses
for such items, but how many Amateurs look in other places, such as
electrical stores, for new ideas?

We recently saw a new line of high impact plastic conduit and fittings,
in a wide range of sizes, which appear to have great promise for Amateur
work as well as in their intended use. These components are welded quite
readily and easily, and impressed us with their light weight and strength.
They would appear to be, size for size, more than competitive with their
aluminium counterparts in price and weight.

An immediate idea which came to mind was the use of the conduit
for beam elements. With a suitable metallic internal spray coating and the
simplicity of welding and working, a very light beam could be built to last
for many years and be completely waterproof into the bargain. Junction
boxes and other fittings would no doubt have many other uses in the
Amateur field.

The average Amateur is an ingenious chappie and with some impro-
visation we foresee these materials being widely used in the near future.
Maybe you have already seen and tried some of these items—if so, why
not tell your fellow Amateurs about it—use this journal to disseminate
your applications by writing an article which will be gratefully accepted.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE, W.I.A.

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MT110

Amateur Radio, August, 1963

High Frequency Filter Type S.S.B. Transmitter

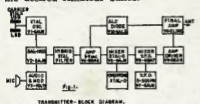
ARIE BLES,* VK2AVA

THE unit to be described is a 150 to 200 watt peak input s.s.b. transmitter, in principle capable of operation on any of the Amateur bands from 15 to 160 metres. It has been built in one version as a three-band 80-40-20 metres bandswitching unit, not larger than 9 by 12 inches chassis size.

The basic circuit diagram is presented herewith and possible modifications will be indicated. The presentation is not meant to be copied literally, but rather as an example of what can be assembled of locally available components, with as heart of the set a high frequency crystal filter composed of surplus type FT243 crystals at approximately 5,500 Kc. frequency.

PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

Fig. 1 shows in simplified form the layout used. In a balanced modulator V2, r.f. carrier energy from the carrier oscillator V1 is modulated by audio frequencies from V3. The carrier is suppressed to a large degree and the residual carrier with two sidebands are fed through a four-crystal hybrid filter. Only one sideband will be passed, which is amplified in a stage of straight amplification in V4, and mixed in the following mixer/frequency converter stage V5 with fixed frequencies, derived from a third overtone crystal oscillator. The results are s.s.b. on still fixed frequencies, approximately 5,000 Kc. or so higher in frequencies than the desired Amateur bands.



Balanced modulator, filter and mixing frequency layouts have been described in earlier issues of "A.R." (Sept. '62, Feb. '63, and April '63, respectively). The advantage of this system, first used by Hallicrafters, is reasonable freedom from images and other undesired mixing products, and the need of only one common v.f.o. frequency range to cover all Amateur bands, provided the intermediate mixing frequencies have been properly chosen (see Table 1).

The next step is to mix these intermediate frequency s.s.b. signals with v.f.o. voltage from V7 in the mixer V6, amplify the proper output in the corresponding Amateur band through V8 to drive the class ABE final V9, the output of which is coupled to the antenna. A small voltage from that output is rectified in diode V10 and fed back to V4 to provide a.l.c. (automatic level control), just as a.v.c. is achieved in a receiver.

SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS

There are modifications possible, some of which are schematically indicated in Fig. 2. Those that prefer the ultimate, at a price, in balanced modulators, the 7360 tube, could combine the crystal oscillator in the same envelope as the balanced modulator and also include a triode cathode follower stage to properly match the fairly low impedance of the crystal filter (see Fig. 2a). Another and even better method of frequency conversion to the Amateur bands is suggested in Fig. 2b. Instead of mixing the s.s.b. signal twice, the v.f.o. energy only is mixed with the overtone crystal frequencies and the output of that mixing combined with the basic s.s.b. signal. This may reduce possible mixing distortion, inherent with all mixing.

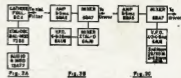


Above-chassis view of S.s.b. Transmitter.

Finally, as shown in Fig. 2c, and being the system successfully used by the makers of the Swan Transceivers, the intermediate mixing stage V5 can be eliminated entirely provided a stable v.f.o. can be built with enough second and third harmonic output on 9 and 12 Mc. to mix directly with the original

s.s.b. signal on 5.5 Mc. This certainly is not easy, but can be done, as amply proved by Swan.

The physical layout of the transmitter is shown in Fig. 3. A bandswitch and plugs for power and control wires are located at the right hand side of the chassis.



ALTERNATIVE-BLOCK DIAGRAMS.

Fig. 4 shows the complete basic circuit diagram of the block diagram of Fig. 1. The bandswitching has been omitted to simplify the circuit. It is obvious what circuits have to be switched to go from one band to another. It is strongly recommended to use plug-in coils if one cannot get the right five-gang ceramic switch assembly. Also the construction may be a bit involved for those who have only limited construction experience. There is ample space even in the small 9" x 12" layout to position plug-in coils between the tubes, close to the proper position in the circuit.

CARRIER OSCILLATOR

The simple Pierce type crystal oscillator is used, identical to the Collins b.f.o. circuit. Only 1 volt of carrier r.f. is required into the balanced modulator so the input to the oscillator is extremely small with the low screen voltage. For test purposes the other sideband generator sub-unit in corners where it is unwelcome.

The carrier oscillator compartment should be shielded from the rest of the sideband generator sub-unit in corners where it is unwelcome.

BALANCED MODULATOR

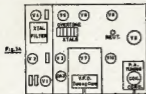
This circuit is the PAOLZ single-ended pentagrid balanced modulator, not very well known outside Holland. The operating principle is simple, the cathode resistors, unbypassed for r.f. or a.f., cause a negative feedback, reducing the amplification of the carrier

Overtone Osc. Frequency	S.S.B. Signal Frequency	Intermediate S.S.B. Freq.	V.F.O. Range	Output Range
13850 14850	5500 U.S.B. Same	10350 U.S.B. 20350 U.S.B.	5350-5000 6350-6000	14000-14350 U.S.B. Same
17850 18850	5500 U.S.B. Same	12350 L.B.S. 13350 L.B.S.	5350-5200 6350-6200	7000-7150 L.S.B. Same
14350 15350	5500 U.S.B. Same	8850 L.S.B. 9850 L.S.B.	5350-5150 6350-6150	3500-3700 L.S.B. Same

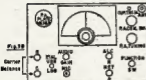
Table 1.

voltage injected in grid No. 1, but at the same time creating an effective voltage on grids 2 and 3 (kept at zero r.f. potential) in opposite phase to the voltage on grid No. 1. At the proper setting of the cathode potentiometer, the resultant effects in the plate circuit will oppose each other, causing carrier balance.

The capacity from grid No. 1 to cathode and the trimmer from cathode to ground form a capacity bridge for proper carrier phase balance, done after adjusting the cathode potentiometer first for minimum carrier. To some extent the two adjustments interact.



POWER SUPPLY



EXTRA TRIODE

The extra triode in the 6A78 is left unused. Other pentagrid mixers will work almost as well, except that the circuit designer may have to be modified for maximum carrier balance. The circuit is sensitive to overdriving, no more than 1 volt carrier should appear on grid No. 1 and likewise 1 volt of a.f. on grid No. 3 will produce plenty of sidebands. If the carrier cannot properly be balanced, there is bound to be leakage around the balanced modulator or overdrive on grid No. 1.

Incidentally, the same circuit is very effective as a receiver product detector, reducing the need for a low-pass filter in the detector output.

More than 1 volt of sidebands can be expected in T1. A single tuned circuit is not recommended here as the low impedance of the crystal filter will load the balanced modulator too heavily. Naturally it also loads the secondary of T1; the tuning here is fairly broad, but tolerable. An impedance match with a triode cathode follower is a good thing to add.

CRYSTAL FILTER

Enough has already been published and discussed over the air on this feature. Tuning the filter is very simple, little more is necessary than adjusting L1, L2 and L3 for maximum output on the centre frequency of the filter. A stable frequency meter is extremely useful to align the filter, but apart from that, no more than a good general coverage receiver with a reliable S meter is needed to align all other parts of the transmitter. Of course you are supposed to possess a grid dip oscillator and a reliable volt-ohm meter.

The crystal filter has some insertion loss and it is the right thing to amplify its output. At the same time, a.c. voltage can be applied to this amplifier stage. It is very simple to rectify a little voltage from the transmitter output stage and feed it back to an earlier stage, preferably operating on a different frequency than the output stage, in the same manner as a.v.c. is applied in a receiver.

Newcomers to s.s.b. could hardly do better than forget most of what they have learned in their a.m. time and start thinking in terms of receiver requirements. The a.c. action is very effective, reducing splatter interference due to overdriving the final amplifier and actually raises the average speech level. More s.s.b. rigs should be using a.c., including some commercial productions.

FREQUENCY CONVERSION

The system followed to convert the 5,500 Kc. fixed frequency s.s.b. signal to the desired Amateur band has been

discussed above with the block diagram. The 6A78 used for V5 happened to include an extra triode for the crystal oscillator. The circuit for the third overtone crystal oscillator has not been used much elsewhere, but is very easy to adjust with the slug in the feed-back winding L6.

Active overtone crystals will oscillate without this slug when L5 is resonated to the overtone frequency. Somewhat less active crystals can be given the correct amount of feedback with negligible effect on the tuning of L5.

The output circuit of V5 is resonated on the frequencies listed in the block diagram discussion. Mixing these intermediate frequencies with the v.f.o. output in mixer V6 produces the desired s.s.b. signal in the Amateur bands.

The v.f.o. is my favourite Clapp oscillator type, others may use their preferred Franklin or other Colpitts versions, provided they are stable oscillators. The secret here lies in the use of good components and rigid tension or friction-free mounting of the

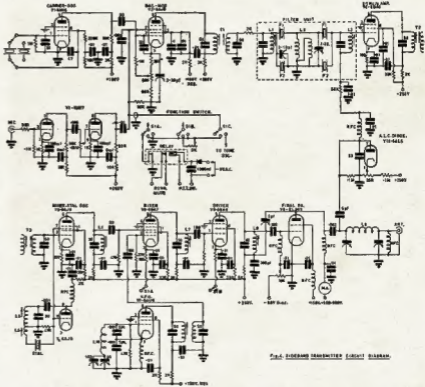


Fig. 1. SSB TRANSMITTER CIRCUIT DIAGRAM

- T1, T2—TV 2.5 Mc. sound channel i.f. transformers or similar units.
- L1, L2—Any slug-tuned coil, resonating on 5.5 Mc. with 50 to 100 pF.
- L3—Toroid bi-filar wound coil, 20 to 22 turns (40-46 total) on 3/8 inch ferrite nut from walkie-talkie coils, the end of one winding connected to the start of the other for centre tap.
- L4—Resonating on approx. 13, 12 and 9 Mc. for respectively 20, 40 and 20 metre operation.
- L5—Resonating on crystal overtone frequencies.
- L6—One-third of turns of L5, with small slug to adjust the amount of feedback inductance.
- L7, L8—Resonating on 20, 40 and 80 metres respectively.

- L9—3 inch length of B. & W. type 3015 or Willis type 4-16 coil, 40 turns 1 inch diam. for 80 metres, tapped at 15 turns for 40 metres and 3 turns for 20 metres.
- L10—V.f.o. coil, 30 turns, same coil material as L9.
- L11—Broadpass transformer for 5,500 to 5,350 Kc.
- S1—Function switch, 3 position, 3 gang. Position 1—P.T.T. (push to talk). Position 2—V.F.O. setting. Position 3—Test tuning with external audio tone source.
- F1—FT243 crystal, approx. 5,500 Kc.
- F2—Same, 1,800 to 2,000 cycles higher in frequency than F1.
- RFC—Radio frequency chokes, all approx. 0.5 millihenry, small types, except in the plate of V5 which must be a solid transmitter type.

components. There is no need to use a Command set as oscillator, you can do a better job by building your own Clapp.

A bandpass filter in the output of the v.f.o. will secure strict v.f.o. fundamental output and little else, like harmonics. What can happen there is shown in Table 2.

Some overtone crystal frequency voltage will always be present in the output stage of V5 and it is wise not to let it beat with an unwanted v.f.o. harmonic and produce an unwanted signal within or close to the Amateur band. Changing the v.f.o. range to 6,000 to 6,350 Kc. will reduce this trouble greatly.

DRIVE AND FINAL

We now can expect a s.s.b. signal of 1 volt or more peak value on the desired Amateur band as output from V8 and this needs to be amplified to "drive" the final stage to full output. Almost everywhere one sees tubes like 6CL6, 12BY7, etc., applied as drivers and far too many home constructors

have had difficulties with instability of their driver stages. All these tubes should be properly neutralised because they are never meant to be used as straight r.f. amplifiers and lack the proper internal screening between control grid and plate. But a small receiver-type r.f. amplifier tube like the 6BA6 will do the "driver" job just as well, is perfectly screened, and does not need more care than normal bypassing and separation of input and output circuits. In stage V8 with 2.5 watts input to the 6BA6, the output tube could be driven into grid current on peaks.

The final amplifier used is the Philips/Mullard equivalent of the now famous 6DQ5. The amount of fixed grid bias required will depend on the value of the screengrid voltage applied, which should be kept below 200 volts. A standing plate current of 25 mA. is safe for the final without grid drive. Properly loaded, it can be driven up to 200 mA. plate current with steady tone input, but have mercy on the little tubes and don't overdo that treatment. The output under those conditions

is enough to light a 60 watt bulb to more than full brilliancy.

The output circuit is the common pi-coupler and the stage is properly neutralised. Some commercials are already recommending an indicator for correct neutralisation; adjust the neutralising condenser until maximum output coincides with the dip in the plate current.

Finally, the a.l.c. diode should be added. The 10K potentiometer in its cathode adjusts the threshold of a.l.c. operation and its effect will be very noticeable.

NETTING

A final word on the netting arrangements. To a listener to a s.s.b. roundtable there is nothing more annoying than to have to re-tune from one station to another when they are not all on the same frequency. Transceiver users should not have any trouble to be on the same frequency provided they use their receivers properly. Personally I feel that others should check their netting more frequently, which some may be reluctant to do because of the difficulties they have in doing so. Either their transmitter signal blocks their receiver or is too weak to determine correct zero-beat with stronger stations. Also, some badly operating balanced modulators can produce extra beat notes and make guesswork of which to use. In this set the variable resistor in the cathode of the "driver", with the function switch in the netting position, will allow adjustment of the strength of the beat note in one's own receiver to the desired level.

CONCLUSION

The performance of the prototype of this design has recently been heard by a fair number of stations on 40 metres and comparison with a signal from a Collins KWM-2 has been favourable. The unwanted sideband suppression can be better than 40 db. with proper adjustment of the crystal filter, and the a.l.c. feature helps to keep distortion products down.

Operation	V.F.O. Frequency	Second Harmonic	Overtone Crystal Freq. Leaking through to grid of V8	Unwanted Output as Difference of These Two Freq.
80 Metres	5350	10700	14350	3650
40 Metres	5350	10700	17850	7150

Table 2.



Lay-out of front panel of the S.s.b. Transmitter.

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A PORTABLE BATTERY CHARGER

DAVID BILLS-THOMPSON*

GENERAL interest and activity in civil emergency services prompted the development of an inexpensive battery charger. Low cost was of primary importance and the search for components began among discarded electrical equipment at home. As the performance of the unit which was evolved proved to be very satisfactory, it was decided to make available those details which could be of use to people interested in W.I.C.E.N. and similar fields.

EQUIPMENT

An AT5 genemotor, which is rated at 26 volts input and 550 volts at 350 mA. output, was used with a 30 c.c. two-stroke engine.

COUPLING

By removing the fan from the genemotor, a small length of shaft was exposed. A bush was screwed to this, so that the unit could be direct coupled through a section of canvas rubber vacuum hose to a similar bush on the crankshaft. An output of 4 amps. at 12 volts was obtained with the first test. In this, the engine was operating at its maximum speed, which is not desirable for continuous use.

INCREASING THE OUTPUT

It was therefore necessary to increase the output of the generator for a given engine speed. This was achieved by connecting the two shunt fields in parallel. This increased the current through each coil and gave a higher flux density.

RECONNECTING THE FIELDS

To obtain this change in field connections, some of the binding tape was carefully removed to gain access to the internal connections of the thick series fields and the shunt fields. **N.B.** The shunt fields are of light gauge wire, and all physical disturbance of the winding must be kept to a minimum. Fig. 1 shows the original connection of the AT5 genemotor. The letters on the circuit indicate the ends of windings and their order shows the direction of current flow, i.e. the direction of current through the armature is from "C" to "D".

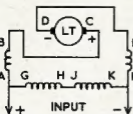


Fig. 1.

ELECTRIC STARTING

It should now be an easy matter to co-ordinate the series and shunt fields for an efficient start/generate circuit. A double pole double throw relay controlled by a push button was used in this unit. An ammeter and a cut-out were also included. The ammeter was wired so that it was not in circuit during starting. Fig. 2 shows the reconnection of the fields with the start relay, cut-out and ammeter. The letters identify the winding ends with those in Fig. 1.

REVERSING ROTATION

With the original internal connections, the armature rotation is anticlockwise viewed at the fan end. Fig. 2 is drawn for the normal rotation, but in some cases it will be necessary to reverse this direction. Electrically, this can be done by two methods, i.e. reversing the armature connections, or by reversing the field connections. To maintain the correct h.t. polarity (negative to earth), the field connections should be reversed with respect to the armature. This means that the pairs of field connections shown in Fig. 2 as AF, HG and KJ should be reversed. Another possibility is to rotate the field system through 180° (two-pole machines only), but this simpler method may not be suitable for other types of genemotors.

PERFORMANCE

As a cumulative compound motor with 12 volts input it can provide 3 lbs./ft. of torque for starting the engine. The maximum charging rate was 12 amps. Using only one-third throttle opening,

the engine would run for about two hours on one pint of "petrol," with a charging rate of 6 amps.

H.T. END

The h.t. end was conserved for lighting purposes only. A 100 watt lamp

(Continued on Page 18)

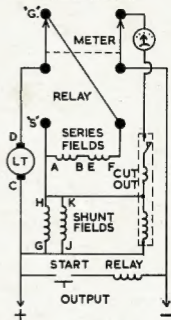
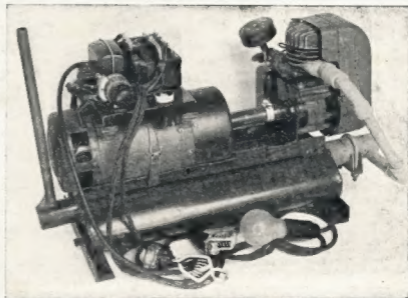


Fig. 2.



* 68 Fairmount Road, Hawthorn East, Vic.

Modifying the AR7 for S.S.B.

A. S. MATHER,* VK2JZ

THE modifications to be described will make the AR7 an almost ideal s.s.b. receiver and it will rival for Amateur-band operation the many excellent commercial receivers that are finding their way into Australian Amateur Stations, with the exception of the dial calibration. But even that could be remedied as will be discussed in the course of the article.

Although this article deals with the AR7, most of the modifications could be applied to any commercial receiver of a similar vintage.

It will be noted that it still leaves the AR7 with its normal coverage, as a communications receiver should it be desired; but for the Amateur bands, it should be used in conjunction with a crystal locked converter, so only 3.5 Mc. to 4 Mc. is tuned for optimum results.

Rather than attempt to show each modification separately, I thought it would serve the best purpose if the complete new circuit diagram was shown so it could be compared with the unmodified circuit and it will be obvious that there is very little left of the original.

The modifications will be dealt with under separate headings, any of which will improve the performance of the set either for a.m., c.w. or s.s.b.

TUBE COMPLEMENT

It is assumed that the filament wiring of the set has been altered to allow parallel operation of all filaments on 6.3v. a.c.

The 6U7Gs were replaced with EF39s and the 6K8G with an ECH33. The 6G8G second detector is removed and the socket is used for the 6SN7 audio a.g.c. tube. To this is added a 6BU8 product detector, a 150C1 voltage regulator, a 6BH6 100 Kc. marker oscillator, 6H6 noise limiter, and a 12AU7A a.g.c. rectifier and a.m. audio amplifier.

CAPACITORS

As there is a considerable amount of work to be done under the chassis, it is important that you remove all the original paper condensers and replace them with the newer, more efficient and smaller polyester types. The space gained will greatly facilitate the work of modifying the AR7, and although the originals may test satisfactorily, they have to be discarded. This applies to the 8 μ F. and 25 μ F. tubulars which can be replaced with advantage with the latest miniature types.

BANDSPREAD

A slow tuning rate is most important for s.s.b. and a crystal locked converter is used to heterodyne 28, 21, 14 and 7 Mc. to 3.5 Mc. A Band C coil box is modified to tune from 3.5 Mc. to 4 Mc. over the full range of the tuning dial. This takes care of 21, 14 and 7 Mc. and the first 500 Kc. of the 28 Mc. band.

*"Wolaroi," 14 William St., Singleton, N.S.W.

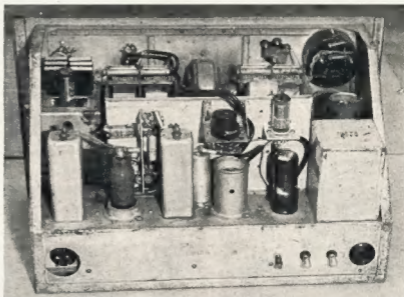
Rather than have less bandspread, I thought it better to settle for 3.5 Mc. to 4.0 Mc. tuning and use the original Band C coil box if necessary to tune all the 28 Mc. and 29 Mc. band if necessary.

AR7 coil boxes were very plentiful from disposals so a Band C box was modified by cannibalising another box for the series trimmers. The coils are not touched and only the trimmers were added in series with the coils and the original parallel trimmers and the 420 pF. ganged condensers as shown. It will be noted that no paddler condensers are used in the oscillator section.

A 50 pF. trimmer was fitted to the hole formerly occupied by the tone control and wired across the aerial tuning gang to peak the antenna coil or weak signals.

We now have electrical bandspread which will greatly help in tuning s.s.b. This can be further improved by the addition of a manual vernier. Mine was designed and presented to me by John VK2AKB and used a $\frac{1}{4}$ " diam. rubber wheel to engage when wanted the edge of the AR7 tuning dial and turned by a 1" metal knob.

The bandspread is, however, so good that I find that the extra vernier control is seldom used.



Rear view of Modified AR7. Xtal filter and V11 will be seen at top left. Components along rear of chassis are (left to right): IFT3, V5 (with shield removed), IFT4, V6, V8, V13 and output transformer. Mounted on brackets are V10 (above V5), V9 (above V6 and V8) and V7 (above V13).

The slug, series trimmer and parallel trimmer in the oscillator section are first adjusted to spread the oscillator tuning as evenly as possible between the 450 and 50 markings on the tuning dial.

Linear bandspread is not possible with this system and the best I could do was:

450 dial mark — 3.5 Mc.	
310 " " "	3.6 "
230 " " "	3.7 "
160 " " "	3.8 "
100 " " "	3.9 "
50 " " "	4.0 "

The 100 Kc. marker makes these adjustments easy and the 2nd r.f., 1st r.f. and aerial coil were then aligned to the new frequency coverage.

It is at this point that the reader's ingenuity could improve the performance of the AR7 as it was an intriguing thought that perhaps the dial could be made to count in the opposite direction. That is when the dial turned in an anti-clockwise direction which increases the frequency, the dial readings would also increase.

Therefore, if one was patient and with a more linear method of bandspread, each division could be made to equal 1 Kc. on the dial.

To read the frequency on any band (7 Mc. excepted in my case) the dial reading would be the band frequency plus the dial reading as the receiver tunes 3.5 Mc. to 4.0 Mc., 500 Kc.

Remove the connection from the a.g.c. line to the b.f.o. switch so when the b.f.o. is turned on, the a.g.c. line is not shorted to ground.

CRYSTAL FILTER

The original crystal holder and phasing condenser are removed and the 150C1 V/R and six FT241 sockets are installed on the metal cover above IFT1 and IFT2 as shown.

This filter will increase the i.f. gain so all leads must be kept as short as possible to avoid any instability, and shield the leads from IFT1 to the crystal sockets and from the crystal sockets to the grid of the first i.f. tube.

Although channel 44, 45, 48 and 49 crystals are shown shunted across the output of IFT₁, I found that they had very little effect on improving the band-pass characteristic of the filter, but I left them in.

It would, of course, only be necessary to use any two adjacent channel crystals that are within the tuning range of the IFT's and the mixer oscillator frequency adjusted accordingly. Now I will stick my neck out and say I don't know how anyone manages to adjust such a filter as this without a wobbulator and c.r.o. No doubt some sort of results are possible using a frequency meter and output meter, but this is tedious, time consuming and the results at best a compromise.

The small effort required to build up a simple wobulator will repay you with a classic bandpass curve approx. 3 Kc. wide with the maximum dip between peaks and very steep sides, 60 db. down and no secondary lobes.

THE PRODUCT DETECTOR

The 6B8 product detector is fitted between IF4 and the 6SN7 a-g.c. socket (originally the 6CG8 socket). The original circuit was first described in "CQ" and later in "A.R." When used as shown, the output is such that the first audio stage can be eliminated and the 6V6G can be driven directly from the transformer secondary, a step up of 1.3. The 6B8 only requires about 3 volts r.f. drive, and as the b.f.o. injection voltage is normally taken from a tap near the cold end of the 6CG8 b.f.o. coil, it is not sufficient. By removing the 0.05 μ F. by-pass condenser at the plate of the 6CG8 and feeding the control grid of the 6B8 through a 0.001 μ F. condenser from the 6CG8 plate, approximately 4 volts of r.f. is obtainable.

It is well to remember here that if you do not have sufficient b.f.o. injection voltage (the re-inserted carrier) then strong s.s.b. signals will cause overmodulation and the r.f. gain will have to be reduced with resultant loss of output to the audio stage.

The 6BU8 will, however, handle extremely strong signals before overload and easily out-performs all the other product detector tubes that I have tried.

The output of the product detector is fed to one side of the s.p.d.t. rotary wafer switch fitted to the hole vacated by the phasing condenser.

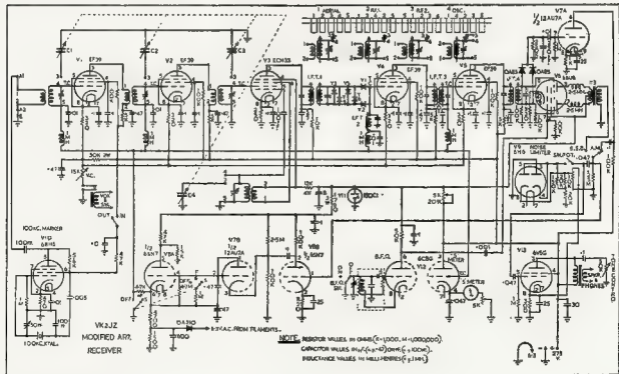
The other side is connected to the output of the a.m. detector so this becomes the a.m.-s.s.b. switch.

A.M. DETECTOR AND AMPLIFIER

My receiver is used almost exclusively on s.s.b., but is capable of resolving quite easily any reasonable a.m. signal, DX or otherwise, in what is known as exalted a.m. reception, with the b.f.o. on.

The r.f. gain can be advanced and the 6BU8 makes quite a good a.m. detector without benefit of the b.f.o. as the tube apparently works in the form of a plate detector. However, I had a spare hole to be filled in and as greater signal handling ability with less distortion is obtainable from a diode detector, it was decided to install a diode rectifier for a.m. reception.

- ² Sideband Notes, "A.R.," April 1863.





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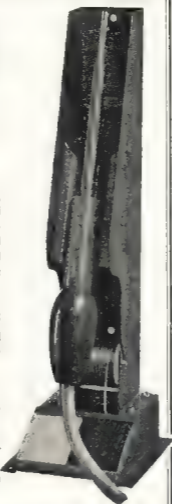
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- ★ 3" dial for easy reading.
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- ★ Instruction manual (12 fool-scap pages) provided, giving valuable data on grid-dipping.
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As the input to the 6BU8 is balanced and the secondary of IFT4 was already loaded with two 100K resistors to earth, a full wave rectifier using two OA85s was also connected across IFT4. The rectified output across a 250K resistor by-passed with a 250 pF condenser is fed to one half of V7A to bring the a.m. output to approximately the s.s.b. output of the 6BU8, and fed to the a.m.-s.s.b. switch as previously stated. As no a.g.c. voltage is taken from the a.m. detector, it is unimportant whether the rectified voltage is positive or negative.

AUDIO A.G.C.

The audio driven a.g.c. circuit was described in "QST" and readers would do well to consult the original article as I will only deal with its operation briefly.

A 6SN7 and half of V7 are used to give fast or slow a.g.c. controlled by a two-pole, three-position rotary switch mounted in the hole formally used for the selectivity pot. This switch selects a.g.c. off, fast and slow. The 7.5 volts negative bias needed for the a.g.c. operation is obtained from the filament voltage by means of a OA210 silicon diode, 800 μ F capacitor and a 1,500 ohm bleeder. The operation of the audio driven a.g.c. is as follows. V8B is an audio amplifier and when the delay voltage established at the cathode of V7B is exceeded V7B conducts and the 0.5 μ F. condenser in the plate circuit is rapidly charged.

The negatively charged end of this condenser is connected to the grid of V8A and as the cathode current of V8B decreases, the cathode voltage goes instantly to ground and so will the a.g.c. line. If sufficient audio voltage is available, the a.g.c. line will drop to -7.5 volts.

By paralleling a 1 meg. resistor across the 4.7 meg. resistor between grid and plate of V8B, fast a.g.c. is obtained in the middle position of the a.g.c. switch.

In the first or "off" position the a.g.c. voltage is grounded through the 4.7K resistor. The 100K and 0.05 μ F. RC combination in the cold end of the grid circuits of the controlled tubes are replaced with 1 mH. R.F.C.'s and 0.01 μ F. condensers to reduce the time constant and obtain full advantage of this system. We have now covered the four most important modifications, so now we will adopt a more orderly approach and return to the front end.

R.F. AND I.F. STAGES

In the original circuit the cathode resistor of the 1st r.f. tube is taken straight to ground. This is now paralleled to the cold end of the other controlled stages and grounded through a 15K pot. The extra variable resistance in conjunction with the positive voltage applied via the 50K resistor gives better control on strong signals than the original 5K pot.

The ground connection between the 15K pot is made by a relay by the vox system or a key switch for manual operation.

The cathode resistors were altered to 330 ohms and 100K series screen

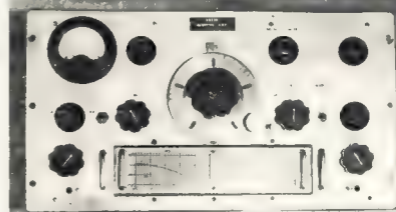
resistors were used to conform to the manufacturer's published data.

Series screen grid supply is recommended because it gives a better signal handling ability to distortion ratio. It can be seen that in the in-operative position the four EF39s only are not conducting and the rest of the set draws normal tube currents.

MIXER

The mixer circuitry has not been greatly modified, a ceramic trimmer and series trimmer were used in the oscillator section of the coil box to improve the stability. Also, the 100 pF. oscillator coupling capacitor was replaced with negative co-efficient disc ceramic and a 3 pF. negative co-efficient capacitor placed across the oscillator trimmer in the coil box.

The ECH33 oscillator plate and screen are fed through four paralleled 47K 1 watt resistors from the regulated 150 volt supply to give 100 volts.



Modified Front Panel of the AR7.

REGULATED SUPPLY

The 150C1 is adjusted to draw 15 mA. through a 5K 20 watt variable wire wound resistor and the regulated voltage is applied to 6BU8 plate and screen, ECH33 plate and screen grid, and b.f.o. plate.

CALIBRATION OSCILLATOR

The crystal calibrator tube and the 10X socket are mounted horizontally between IFT3 and IFT4, as can be seen in the photograph.

The original crystal toggle switch is used to supply h.t. to the 6BH6 in the "up" or "in" position. The output is run through shielded cable and coupled to the aerial terminal through a 100 pF. condenser. The variable trimmer is used in conjunction with WWV to bring the oscillator right on frequency.

Another coil box which will tune one of the receivable WWV frequencies or a separate receiver will have to be used as the modified Band C box and crystal locked converter will not do this.

NOISE LIMITER

I think that at best, noise limiters are a compromise as I have never had

a really satisfactory one. When the ratio of the noise is large in relation to the signal, then most limiters will function satisfactorily, but the trouble arises when the signal is only a little way down below the noise. Any clipping or limiting, then affects the signal to the same extent as the noise.

As i.f. limiting upsets the bandpass curve of crystal filters, audio limiting had to be used.

I use a circuit previously described in "A.R." which limits the positive and negative audio peaks. The original article did not show a grid leak on the 6V6 which is necessary, and I use a 10K a.w. pot across to the 6V6 bias, to obtain the threshold voltage and to switch the limiter out when unwanted.

TUNING

You will find that with the bandspread now available, the b.f.o. can be set in the optimum position for upper or lower sideband reception; and all

tuning done with the main tuning control.

Once the optimum position for the b.f.o. control has been determined, it can be designated u.s.b. and l.s.b. and then left in either position for reception of the appropriate sideband.

STONE CONTROL

As I still had a hole left over, I used it to re-install the original tone control of the AR7. I never use it, I doubt if anyone will, so leave it out if you have not drilled the extra hole in the top right hand corner of the panel as I had for a previous modification.

VENTILATION

As five additional tubes have been added, which means extra heat dissipation, the cabinet was drilled to take the small eyelets used on ladies' belts, 112 on the top and 64 on the back.

CONCLUSION

Of necessity, I have only given very brief outlines of the modifications, but

(Continued on Page 18)

* "Improved Audio Driven A.g.c. Circuit," "QST," September 1960.

* "Painless Noise Limiting for 13/8," "A.R.," August 1958.

AN IMPROVED T-NOTCH FILTER*

H. O. LORENZEN, W3BLC

THE CALL OF THE UNTAMED

The time was 04 hours EAST
And twenty was as quiet could be.
No one it seemed, but me,
Was waiting for one VK4HG

If luck on me would but smile,
This up from stormy Willis Isle,
Might hear me if I called a while—
But I sensed a waiting pile.

Darr I risk a short blind shout,
On the chance he'd be about.
No harm, if it raled but nought
So I tapped the call sign out.

Hell cut loose, as thousands bawled
4HG they blindly called.
And while the QRM hung palled,
Beams were swung and wildly hauled.

A lonely TIS was there,
With a note like steak done rare.
As ether tuned, I do declare,
'Twas like a madman's nightmare.

Code and sideband vied for space,
In this frenzied DX Race,
And to help it on apace,
The a.m. men joined in the chase.

And from the low end to the high,
For a cycles space did vie,
These DX busters from the sky
Hounding one unlucky guy.

Calling for an hour straight
With every guile and every bait,
The weakest at the wall must wait,
For in this, no man's a mate.

But where was Willis, all this while?
Only silence from the Isle,
Echoed back 8,000 mile,
To the medley waiting pile.

But did the truth ever dawn,
On the tumult, greedy, torn,
That Willis, isolate, forlorn,
Had never sent a sig that morn.

—Al, VK488.

T-NOTCH Filters have been popular with Amateurs for some time and a number of commercial receivers for the Amateur incorporate such circuits. On the crowded c.w. and s.a.b. bands, especially, the operators of today need a means of rejecting unwanted signals.

After experimenting with conventional T-notch filters with fair results, the writer decided to try some electronic tricks to deepen the notch and thus improve the effectiveness of the filter. The circuit finally evolved is shown in Fig. 1 and deepens the notch roughly an additional 15 db.

By utilising a double triode it was possible to make up for the insertion loss of the filter by using the gain from the first triode section of the 12AX7. This arrangement also allows the circuit to incorporate cathode coupling for the T-notch filter. The rest of the system is straightforward. The second half of the dual triode provides feedback which effectively increases the Q of the filter and hence the depth of the notch. Balance of the bridge in the filter is obtained by adjustment of the 25K ohms potentiometer. Once carefully set this adjustment need not be touched.

was causing major errors in the resonance values indicated on the grid dip meter.

C3 and C4 should be of the same value and the majority of the tuning capacity should be in these two silver mica units. S1 serves to remove the T-notch filter from the circuit. A toggle switch was utilised in the prototype but it should be quite simple to obtain the same function by causing the trimmer to short at one extreme of its tuning range.

A fairly simple way to construct such a unit would be to obtain an ordinary 455 Kc. air trimmed i.f. transformer and use one coil for L1, removing all except one rotor plate from C1. A 1/8" brass rod should be filed to fit the slot snugly. The other trimmer can be used for C2 after removing the fixed capacity section by sawing through the support posts with a jeweller's saw and removing the extra plates.

The second coil in the i.f. transformer should be removed by sawing through the support dowel. This coil can then be used for L2 since most 455 Kc. i.f. transformers have an inductance of 1 mH. Care should be taken to be sure

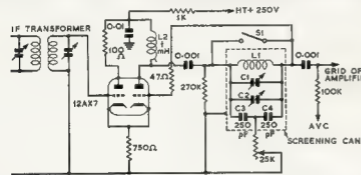


Fig. 1—Circuit diagram of an Improved T-Notch Filter. The connection between the grid of the first half of the 12AX7 and the i.f. transformer should be as short as possible.

By utilising a b.f.o. unit with air trimmers a fairly simple modification was effected. First the knob controlled trimmer C1 was reduced to just three plates (1 rotor and 2 stator) so that it would give a suitable vernier action. Next, on the second trimmer C2 all the fixed capacity plates were removed so that the variable section then gave a change in capacity of about 25 pF. Since the inductance of L1 was approximately 1 mH, out of the can, the two silver mica capacitors C3 and C4 (each 250 pF) were placed across the coil and the centre point brought out to the 25K ohms balance potentiometer. One caution should be mentioned here: the inductance of L1 outside the can and in the can varies widely. In this case it was sufficiently different to be outside the range of the 25 pF. trimming capacitor C2. The writer spent a weary evening determining the correct capacity values of C3 and C4 until it finally dawned on him that the shield

L2 is not too much larger than 1 mH, or oscillation may result. All the tuned circuits in the T-notch filter should be carefully shielded.

A 12AT7 has the same base connections and a higher Gm than the 12AX7 but its characteristics apparently are not suited to this service. After numerous trials with differing component values the writer was unable to obtain the satisfactory smooth operation given by the 12AX7.

★

1963 PAKISTAN DAY DX CONTEST OFFICIAL RESULTS

Tiger Amateur Radio Club, Dacca, Cantt., held its first Pakistan Day DX Contest on the occasion of Republic Day on 23rd March, 1963. The Contest has been sponsored to establish maximum contacts with Radio Amateurs all over the world and to give new country and zones for D.K.C.C. award.

A handsome 14 x 21 inch oriental design certificate with T.A.R.C. golden seal affixed on varied colour ribbons has been issued to leading operators in each country/zone area. VK4HJ was the Australian winner and recipient of a certificate.

—VK4ES

TECHNICAL ARTICLES

Readers are requested to submit articles for publication in "A.R.," in particular constructional articles, photographs of stations and gear, together with articles suitable for beginners, are required.

★

Manuscripts should preferably be typewritten but if handwritten please double space the writing. Drawings will be done by "A.R." staff.

★

Photographs will be returned if the sender's name and address is shown on the back of each photograph submitted.

★

Please address all articles to the
EDITOR "A.R."
P.O. BOX 38,
EAST MELBOURNE, C.2,
VICTORIA.

A Crystal Controlled Converter for 576 Mc.

C. J. KOSINA,* VK6LK

VERY little has been published in "A.R." regarding stabilised receiving equipment on the u.h.f. bands. Since a transmitter for this band was described recently† it was thought logical that this should be followed by a description of a suitable converter. The circuit is, of course, only a suggested design and many modifications should be possible.

R.F. AMPLIFIER

The tube type used here, an EC88, is a recent release by Mullard.‡ It is a triode, very moderately priced, designed for grounded grid operation up to 1,000 Mc. and will actually give a gain of 8 db. at 1,400 Mc. The gain at 600 Mc. is 18 db. with a noise figure of 9 db.

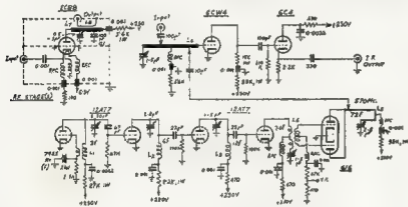


Fig. 1—576 Mc. Converter. All resistors $\frac{1}{2}W$, unless otherwise shown.

Constructional details of the amplifier are given in Fig. 2. A quarter wave trough line is used in the plate and resonated by a 0.5-3 pF. ceramic trimmer. The 100 pF. capacitor (C1) alters the electrical length of the line and when placed 1" from the plate pin, the trimmer resonates the circuit in the middle of its tuning range. The amplifier is thus capable of operating over a wide range of frequencies and could be used on the 432 Mc. band by simply altering the position of C1.

There is apparently little spread of characteristics of the tubes, five different tubes tried in the amplifier gave almost identical performance with only a slight re-tuning required. There were no instability problems, even when four stages were connected in cascade and the total r.f. gain under such circumstances being about 70 db. It is recommended that at least two stages are used so that mixer noise will not be significant.

Another tube tried was the 6CW4. However, due to the construction of

this tube, it has a high plate-cathode capacity and to date the author and others have not succeeded in constructing a sufficiently stable stage using this tube. If stabilised, the 6CW4 should give about the same gain as the EC88 but with a lower noise figure.

MIXER STAGE

A 6CW4 nuvistor triode is used in grounded cathode configuration, with a series tuned grid circuit. Both oscillator and signal are capacitively coupled to taps on the grid line. The layout of the mixer is shown in Fig. 3.

A simpler mixer circuit requiring no adjustment is a grounded grid type. Both signal and oscillator are applied to the cathode which is connected to ground via an r.f. choke. The heater

doubles to 95 Mc. and triples to 285 Mc. About 0.25 mA. grid drive is available to the final multiplier which is a 6J6 push-push doubler to 570 Mc. thus giving an i.f. of 6 Mc.

The layout of this section is not critical (Fig. 4), the only major requirement is that the 6J6 be reasonably close to the mixer stage. The amount of injection may be varied by altering the plate voltage of the 6J6, and beat signal to noise ratio occurs at about 65 volts.

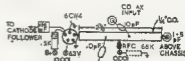


Fig. 3—Layout of Mixer Stage.

COIL DATA

- L1: 9 turns, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam., $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 20 B. & S. enamel; feedback, 3 turns hook-up wire around cold end.
- L2: 10 turns, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam., 1" long, 16 B. & S. enamel.
- L3: 8 turns, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam., $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 16 B. & S. enamel.
- L4: Plate—4 turns, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam., $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 18 B. & S. enamel, wound as 2 + 2 turns with gap in centre for grid winding; c.t. for r.f.c.
- Grid—2 turns, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam. 18 B. & S., adjust length to resonate with input capacity of 6J6.
- L5: Hairpin loop, $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, $\frac{1}{8}$ " diam. (total length of wire approx. $\frac{3}{4}$ "), 16 B. & S. silver plated, tapped $\frac{1}{4}$ " from plate pins for osc. output, centre tap for r.f.c.
- L6: $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " copper tubing (preferably silver plated), centre tapped for r.f.c.
- Osc. injection—approx. $\frac{1}{4}$ " from r.f.c. tube side.
- Input—approx. $\frac{1}{4}$ " from r.f.c. 1-5 pF. trimmer side.
- L7: 2 " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " copper tubing.
- 0.5-3 pF. trimmer connected $\frac{1}{4}$ " from plate pin.
- C1 tap—see text.
- L8: 1" long loop, parallel to L7.

All r.f.c.'s are quarter wave long wire wound on convenient diameter.

(Continued on Page 16)

OSCILLATOR MULTIPLIER CHAIN

Half a 12AT7 is used as an overtone oscillator on a frequency of 23.75 Mc. (crystal 7920 Kc.). The second half doubles to 47.5 Mc. The second 12AT7

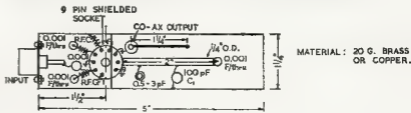


Fig. 2—R.F. Amplifier Layout.

* 21 Darnell Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, W.A.

† "Amateur Radio," November 1962, p. 6.

‡ "Mullard Outlook," Vol. 5, No. 4, July-August 1962, p. 47.



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VK-ZL OCEANIA DX CONTEST, 1963

W.I.A. and N.Z.A.R.T., the National Amateur Associations in Australia and New Zealand, invite world wide participation in this year's VK-ZL Oceania DX Contest.

Objects: For the world to contact VK, ZL and Oceania stations and vice versa.

When? Phone: 24 hours from 1000 GMT, Saturday, 5th October, to 1000 GMT, Sunday, 6th October. **C.w.:** 24 hours from 1000 GMT, Saturday, 12th October, to 1000 GMT, Sunday, 13th October.

RULES

1. There shall be three main sections to the Contest:—

- (a) Transmitting phone.
- (b) Transmitting c.w.
- (c) Receiving—phone and c.w.

2. The Contest is open to all licensed Amateur transmitting stations in any part of the world. No prior entry need be made. Mobile Marins or other non land-based stations are not permitted to enter the Contest.

3. All Amateur frequency bands may be used but no cross-band operation is permitted.

4. Phone will be used during the first week-end and c.w. during the second week-end. Stations entering both sections must submit separate logs.

5. Only one contact per band is permitted with any one station for scoring purposes.

6. Only one licensed Amateur is permitted to operate any one station under the owner's call sign. Should two or more operate any particular station, each will be considered a competitor, and must submit a separate log under his own call sign. (Not applicable to overseas stations.)

7. Entrants must operate within the terms of their licences.

8. Cyphers: Before points can be claimed for a contact, serial numbers must be exchanged and acknowledged. The serial number of five or six figures will be made up of the RS (telemetry) or RST (c.w.) report plus three figures which may begin with any number between 001 and 100 for the first contact, and which will increase in value by one for each successive contact; e.g. if the number chosen for the first contact is 053, then the second must be 054, followed by 055, 056, etc. If any contestant reaches 999, he will start again from 001.

9. Scoring: (a) For Oceania Stations other than VK/ZL: 2 points for each contact on a specified band with VK/ZL stations; 1 point for each contact on a specific band with the rest of the world.

(b) For Rest of the World other than VK/ZL: 2 points for each contact on a specific band with VK/ZL stations; 1 point for each contact on a specific band with Oceania stations other than VK/ZL.

(c) For VK/ZL Stations: 5 points for each contact on a specific band and in

addition, for each new country worked on that band, bonus points on the following scale will be added:

1st contact—50 points	
2nd	" 40 "
3rd	" 30 "
4th	" 20 "
5th	" 10 "

For this purpose the A.R.R.L. countries list will be used with the exception that each call area of W/K, JA, SM, UA will count as "countries" for scoring purposes as indicated above.

10. Logs. (i) Overseas Stations:

(a) Logs to show in this order: date, time in GMT, call sign of station contacted, band, serial number sent, serial number received, points. Underline each new VK/ZL call area contacted and use a different log for each band.

(b) Summary to show: call sign, name and address (block letters), details of equipment, total score by showing sum of VK/ZL call areas worked on all bands and total points for all bands. Sign a declaration that all rules and regulations were observed.

(ii) VK/ZL Stations: (a) Logs must show in this order: date, time in GMT, call sign of station contacted, band, serial number sent, serial number received, contact points, bonus points. Use a separate log for each band.

(b) Summary to show: call sign, name and address in block letters, score for each band by adding contact and bonus points for that band and as well, total score by adding band scores together, details of equipment used and power, declaration that all rules and regulations have been observed.

11. The right is reserved to disqualify any entrant who, during the Contest, has not observed regulations or who has consistently departed from the accepted code of operating ethics.

12. The ruling of the Federal Contest Committee of the Wireless Institute of Australia will be final.

13. Awards. VK-ZL Stations: The W.I.A. will award certificates to the top scorer on each band and the top scorer in each VK-ZL district.

Overseas Stations: Certificates will be awarded to each country (call area in W/K, JA, SM, UA) on the following basis:

1. Top scorer using "all bands".
2. Top scorers on individual bands.
3. To those with minimum contact requirements to be determined by conditions and activity prevailing.

14. Entries from VK-ZL Stations should be posted direct to Federal Contest Committee, Wireless Institute of Australia, Box 638J, G.P.O., Brisbane, Australia, to arrive not later than 31st December, 1963.

Entries from Overseas Stations should be posted to Federal Contest Committee, Wireless Institute of Australia, Box 638J, G.P.O., Brisbane, Australia, to arrive not later than 19th January, 1964.

RECEIVING SECTION

1. The rules are the same as for the transmitting section, but it is open to all members of any S.W.I. Society in

the world. No transmitting station is permitted to enter this section.

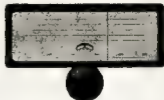
2. The Contest times and logging of stations on each band per week-end are as for the transmitting section.

3. To count for points, logs will take the same form as for the transmitting section as follows: date, time (GMT), call of the station heard, call of the station he is working, RS(T) of the station heard, serial number sent by the station heard, band, points claimed. Scoring is on the same basis as for the transmitting section and the summary sheet should be similarly set out.

4. Overseas stations may log only VK-ZL stations, but VK receiving stations may log overseas stations and ZL stations; while ZL receiving stations may log overseas stations and VK stations.

5. Certificates will be awarded to the top scorer in each VK-ZL call area and in each overseas scoring area.

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The pointer has a horizontal travel of 7 inches. A circular vernier scale, marked over 100 divisions, rotates five times for one traverse of the pointer, and, read with the "100" scale on the dial, provides a total of 500 divisions.

A diecast escutcheon, finished glossy black, is supplied and the assembly is complete with perspex window, knob, fixing screws, and mounting template. Overall external dimensions are 9-3/16" (23.34 cms.) by 5 7/8" (14.6 cms.). Weight is approx. 1 lb. 14 ozs. (0.85 kilograms).

Price: £9/17/9 inc. S.T.

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C.C. CONVERTER FOR 576 Mc.

(Continued from Page 12)

OPERATING CONDITIONS

6BL8 oscillator: 100 v. at 5 mA.
 6BL8 doubler: 185 v. at 5.5 mA.
 12AT7 tripler: 220 v. at 5 mA.
 12AT7 tripler: 220 v. at 4.5 mA.
 6J6 doubler: 65 v. at 3 mA.
 6C4 cathode follower: 230 v. at 4.5 mA.
 6CW4 mixer: 65 v. at 3 mA.
 EC88 r.f. amplifier(s): 160 v. at 12.5 mA. each.
 Total current drain (excluding EC88s):
 35 mA. at 230 v.

PERFORMANCE

No accurate test equipment was available for checking the performance of the converter, however an approximate measurement indicates a noise figure of about 10 db. At the time of writing, an r.f. amplifier using a special low noise u.h.f. tube is under construction and this should bring the noise figure down to 5 db. A description of this amplifier should follow soon.

Activity on 576 Mc. is very limited and as a result, literature on this band is very scarce. The author would welcome any correspondence regarding this and other u.h.f. bands.

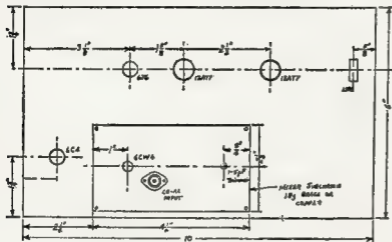


Fig. 4.—Converter Layout. Chassis: 18 gauge aluminium, 10 x 6 x 3 1/2 inches.

HINTS AND KINKS

PRINTED CIRCUITS— COMPONENT REMOVAL

Removal of components from printed circuit boards can be simplified by the use of the following equipment. Furthermore, heat damage to diodes and transistors can be kept to a minimum by this method.

Procedure: Use a vacuum cleaner fitted with a suitable length of strong walled p.v.c. tubing (or brewer's hose) of about 15-20 mm. diameter connected to the suction side of the cleaner.

Suitably fit into the working end of the larger diameter p.v.c. tubing, a short length of 3-4 mm. teflon tubing (about 1 inch length is ample).

Apply a hot soldering iron to the area of printed circuits until solder melts freely, then suck away the molten solder. Solder shall be completely removed, leaving the pigtailed and the feed-through holes clear, giving easy access to locate pigtail for component removal.

Where suspect transistors are removed for testing, continued application of suction has a cooling effect on the pigtail.

The 15-20 mm. tubing should not be longer than that to give convenient use of the vacuum cleaner on the workshop

bench. The 1 inch length of 3-4 mm. teflon tubing is specified for two reasons:—

- (1) To keep the suction pressure up.
- (2) When solder is sucked up, it will set and lodge in a long length. It is a good practice to clean out the tubing (the 1 inch length) after each clean up of a solder point.

Caution! Teflon (tetrafluorethylene-polymer) will give off slight gases above 250-275°C., which under prolonged dosage can be fatal.



AMENDMENTS TO R.D. CONTEST RULES

Rule 2: Members and non-members of the W.I.A. will be eligible for the awards.

Rule 14: Northern Territory and A.C.T. will both count as separate call areas for award purposes only.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is regretted that credit was omitted from the article "Profile of VK3ZEB" published in the last issue. We are indebted to N. Town, VK3ANK for providing this article.

PORTABLE BATTERY CHARGER

(Continued from Page 7)

could be operated to more than full brilliance, while a charging rate of 2 amps was being maintained through the battery.

CHECKING "SLIP" ON THE COUPLING UNIT

This was done by using a small neon lamp as a "strobe-light." Only one lead was used. This was connected to the spark plug, the other was insulated. (See Fig. 3.) When the engine is running at full load, hold the neon near the coupling unit. If there is no "slip," the coupling will appear to be stationary. This test should be carried out in darkness for convincing results.

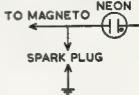


Fig. 3.

NOISE SUPPRESSION

No attempt was made to regulate the voltage or provide any means of filtering. Likewise ignition suppression was not incorporated, but may be considered according to requirements. The complete motor-generator was mounted on a Holden muffler, which provided a rigid base and a good means of silencing the exhaust. To remove condensation from the silencer, a drain plug was fitted at its lowest point.

USE

The prototype was tested over a period of two weeks in December 1982, when it gave a reliable performance with adequate charging and lighting facilities in a mobile marine station. The unit is continuing to prove invaluable, when operating a portable station in areas where electric supply is unavailable.



MODIFYING AR7 FOR S.S.B.

(Continued from Page 11)

those who tackle the job should have no trouble doing them their own way.

It should be obvious that extensive use of plastic covered shielded wire will have to be made, especially to the various controls.

I trust that you have been interested in the modifications to the AR7. You will no doubt be able to criticise or improve many of them, and I would like to hear from others who have carried out modifications.

An extra triode, for instance, could be made available by replacing the 6V6G with a 6EM5 or similar output triode-pentode. However, these modifications will do two things for sure. Give you a really hot s.s.b. receiver which is a pleasure to operate, and teach you a little more about s.s.b. receiver techniques whilst you are carrying them out.

VK5JE OBTAINS D.X.C.C. ON 7 Mc.

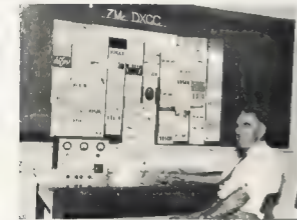
Correspondence

TED has been interested in Amateur Radio since 1924, back in the days of the crystal and cat's whisker, and when 80 metres was considered "short waves".

Receiving his licence (No. 306) in 1926 at the age of 18, activities were confined mostly to the 80 metre and the 200 metre bands. Many broadcast listeners, if they are still alive, will remember "2JC Concord," operating on the broadcast band when the "regular" broadcast stations had closed down.

Migrating to Adelaide in 1935, he was allotted the call VK5JC and as such became a 14 Mc. phone addict, being responsible for some of the first regular VK-W contacts. In those days the number of VKs operating DX phone could be counted on two hands—now you would need a computer.

During the war, Ted was in the 2/1 Fortress Signals A.I.F., located on Timor, where the Japs found him in Feb. 1942. Many years were spent up in Thailand on the infamous Burma Railway, but even whilst a P.O.W. he managed to work three undercover radio receivers for which he received a "mention-in-despatches" award.



There is no doubt that Amateur Radio proves a good training ground for future trained personnel in times of National emergency. (Are you on the beam, Canberra?)

Returning to Adelaide in 1946, Ted was given the call VK5JE, his old one having lapsed, and resumed activities on 14 Mc. The sudden growth in the popularity of three element beams made competition a bit too fierce so it wasn't long before eyes were cast on 7 Mc. Did it hold any possibilities for DX? Most of the gang said, "Who cares," but nevertheless it must be remembered that it is a Ham band after all.

Well after 11 years' work on the band D.X.C.C. has at last been acknowledged with Certificate No. 77. Ted comments, "Guess it is time to see what 80 and 160 metres really offers. What's that I hear?" "What about 6 and 2 metres?" "Maybe I get a bit nostalgic for my first love after Hamming for 37 years."

LIST OF COUNTRIES SUBMITTED FOR D.X.C.C.

The following countries were submitted for D.X.C.C. award. Figures in the right hand column indicate number of times a QSO was had with that country.

CM	2	KBS	2
CR	3	KS4	2
GW	20	KS5	2
DU	5	KV6	2
EA	1	KW8	2
EL	1	KX8	2
EPI	1	KZ3	2
FAB	2	LA	1
F	10	MP4	1
FKS	5	NA	1
G	60	OE	2
GI	1	OH	2
HA	1	OK	2
HC	3	ON	1
HB	6	PA0	2
HK	2	SM	10
HL	3	SP	4
HP	6	TI	1
HR	4	UA1	2
HS	3	UA6	15
HZ	1	UB	2
I	1	UC3	2
JA	183	UL1	2
K/W (see below)			174
KC4	3	VKI Macquarie Is.	1
KCS	5	VK Lord Howe Is.	1
KH6 Hawaii	8	VK	1
KH6 Kure Is.	1	VK	1
KJ6	1	VK9 N. Guinea	4
KL7	30	VKD Norfolk Is.	3
KM6	4	VK	1
KPA	13	VPE	1
KP4	2	VPT	1
		VQ	1
		VQ2	1
		VQ3	1
		VQ4	12
		VQ5	1
		VQ6	1
		VQ7	1
		VQ8	1
		VQ9	1
		VQ10	1
		VQ11	1
		VQ12	1
		VQ13	1
		VQ14	1
		VQ15	1
		VQ16	1
		VQ17	1
		VQ18	1
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		VQ89	1
		VQ90	1
		VQ91	1
		VQ92	1
		VQ93	1
		VQ94	1
		VQ95	1
		VQ96	1
		VQ97	1
		VQ98	1
		VQ99	1
		VQ100	1

Any opinion expressed under this heading is the individual opinion of the writer and does not necessarily coincide with that of the publishers.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP

Editor "A.R.," Dear Sir,

On more than one occasion in the past I have received your correspondence, besides the relevant QSO data the caption "Hams for Christ," etc.

These Hams who use (or allow to be used) Amateur Radio for religious campaigning, are taking the first step to destroy Amateur Radio's finest spirit, i.e. true friendship.

While I readily admit that one's personal philosophy or religion must encompass every aspect of one's existence, the introduction of a flavouring of religion, politics or color or creed into Amateur Radio will soon render suspect the now impeccable hand of international friendship which exists.

—Al Shawmuth, VK4SS.



HISTORICAL GLEANINGS—1914

In this year, under the title of "Wireless in Australia," the (then) Wireless Institute of Victoria, of Oxford Chambers in Bourke St. Melbourne, published a booklet containing the following information about Australian radio stations:

Commercial calls, land stations (including Army and Navy stations), 35.

Commercial calls, ship stations (including all Navy and Merchant Marine ships frequenting Australian waters), 309.

Experimental calls: N.E.W. 167, Vic. 188, Qld. 10, S.A. 80, W.A. 12, Tas. 10, total 404.

The preface of the booklet stated that it was the first of its kind for Australia, and filled a long felt want by Wireless Experimenters. The booklet also quoted some of the objects of the Wireless Institute of Victoria. These were very ample and served as a basis for the constitution under which W.I.A. operates today.

The office-bearers of W.I. (Vic.) at this time were: President, Vernon Cole; Vice-Presidents, W. King Witt (N.W.) and F. J. O'Sannassy; Council: Douglas Harrison, Herman Lindow and John Strickland (KX3, Hon. Correspondent Sec. W. Edgerton; C. R. Dutton, Hon. Org. Sec. John Welch (KXJCW); Hon. Treasurer, Angus McGregor (KXJEA). Postal Address, Box 1006, G.P.O., Melbourne; official station call sign, XPI.

Office-bearers of W.I. (N.E.W.) were: President, C. F. Bartholomew (XKBM), Hon. Sec., Malcolm Perry (KXPI); Assist. Hon. Sec., N. H. Wright (KXG); Postal address, Box 2, King St. P.O., Sydney; official station call sign, XADK.

Advertisers were: Lawrence & Hansen, Marconi Telefunken School of Radiotelephony, MacLurean & Lane, Warburton & Frankel Melb. Ltd.

Amongst the items offered for sale, which now only have historical value, were h.t. coils and spark gaps.

Prior to the publication of this booklet, the information available is somewhat sketchy; however indications are that individual experimenters were at work as early as 1900.

In 1901 Bill Jenney made the first wireless tests with the S.S. "Opah," when King George V. (then Duke of York) visited Australia.

By 1908 quite a few spark coil transmitters were being used by experimenters—receivers employed Coherer detectors which consisted of a tube full of filings, which were caused to cohere by the incoming signal, and decode upon receipt of vibrations from a buzzer or bell.

1908 saw the introduction of galena and iron pyrite detectors complete with catwhiskers. In 1910 occurred the first recorded incident of Amateur interference with another service. An unfortunate event, as the service affected was that of a ship in distress; however the situation was rectified in 1911 by another Amateur, who was the only one to hear and ship's distress signal. Both events took place in U.S.A.

The following have been worked but as yet no QSL has been received:

KG6	19	FWS	1
PK3	1	KI	1
LZ	1	AC (Phoney?)	1
FBSXX	1		

The above indicates that 934 DX contacts (excluding W and ZL) have been made on 7 Mc.

Below are details of W QSOs (this includes many repeat QSOs with the same station but no skeds kept):—

W1	315	W6	383
W2	811	W7	342
W3	450	W8	380
W4	444	W9	380
W5	371	W0	380

The grand total of DX worked on 7 Mc. is 934 plus 4,837 W contacts, making a total of 5,771 (excluding ZL of course).

For those interested in statistics, the above figures have been tabulated in yearly QSOs also and this information is available for the asking of VK5JE.

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE FOR THIS PAGE DIRECT TO THE SUB EDITOR

Amateur Radio, August, 1963

Greetings once again. Winter seems to have claimed its victims once again with the seasonal fall off in activities. Judging by the various reports this season, influence has extended to all States who have experienced a trying winter. The mid-winter 50 Mc openings were quite good around the Eastern States with DX between VKs, VK4, VK3, VK2, VKY and across to ZL, opening on a fortnightly basis (very convenient). A surprise here was an opening in Launceston on 3rd June, when Gek VK3ZL worked VK3ZHH and myself—proved that watching tv pays dividends.

This coming season promises interesting results with the sunspot minima being reached early next year. Predictions are for an exceptional amount of short skip openings on 50 Mc. It might be possible to repeat 144 Mc. DX achievements of the past two seasons. It will be very interesting to see if a W.A.S. on 144 Mc. can occur here. The VKs show a number of States working will, I'm sure, be working overtime to increase their tally. One path worth watching this year will be the VK3, VK4 to VK4 at the cycle might repeat itself this year. On 50 Mc. between VK3 and VK4 (Kalgoorlie area) should be worth watching at last season there was a number of openings across this path, plus a number VK4's were heard.

I am appealing once again for correspondents to submit their reports to the existing 144 Divisional scribbles, particularly from Northern Qld., Broken Hill area, Northern N.S.W., Western and Eastern Victoria, in fact anywhere there are some v.h.f. activity. Some of the capital cities. Individual Amateurs or S.W.s are most welcome sources of additional information. No matter how small, please drop me a line and let me know what's doing in your area. Only this way can we get an overall picture of v.h.f. activity in this continent. I appeal to all DX on v.h.f. will receive full publicity if you will, only supply the details by the first of the month please! VK4 ZL's are to be commended for their interest in the 70 Cm. band. Their Gentlemen's Agreement on the division of the band for stability and unbroken gear a.s.v. could well be used by all States. We trust that all Divisions can agree on something similar. See under VK4 notes for details of same.

Would the Secretary of the Burdekin (Qld.) Club please contact me again as I have missed his recent letter—my apologies. Also would the VK4 scribbles please forward this note to me at the VK4ZGP, not to BULL's (3ARZ) address—VK3ZGP.

NEW SOUTH WALES

The June Fox Hunt, organised by Dick Z2CF, turned out to be quite a comedy. Coming at a time when many were having an unusual "amount" of "wet", and being the dead of winter, a very good roll up of starters commenced the Hunt, 8 to 10 in number (couldn't see too well) and at the appointed time, with much screaming of tyres, they departed, supposedly in the direction of the Fox. First reports came in from the Hunter, who had been. Likewise John Z2AV who snapped the boom. Bob 3ASZ had better take a bow for his effort in organising the Long Distance Hunt, as most of the boys had been raving about him. The winners of the Wednesday night Hunt were Z2PJ first, with Z2IP and 3AJWZ following. The Fox was zoned up at a little reserve at Colo.

Transistor gear looks like getting a shot in the arm very shortly, with Les Z2JB and his recent entry into dabbling. The new transistor tx's, converters, rx's and the like. This was helped along by the importation of American Motorola N100 silicon planar power transistors, which are now available at about \$30/- each and have a collector dissipation of 5W. Les has made a contact from Camden to Melbourne at Atlanta, and also from there and Terry has made several cross-town contacts of about 15 miles with S8 to 8 reports. Les has also made a contact with the 300 Mc. h.p. converter and circuits for tx and vx will be available soon. If you can't wait, write to me and I'll try and scribble out a reggie circuit for you. I'll be happy to assist.

Noel Z2NS is hitting the sideband trail soon with 22W and v.i.o. already under way. He has been having a little trouble with his 146

Mc. f.m. net car phone, but when last heard was putting in a thumping big signal. David Z2VW is "getting along with the index" now, with 120W on 8 m.x. l.m. and is once again getting under way on a linear for 8 m.x. a.s.b. Incidentally, we lose Basil Z2LL from the ranks shortly when he takes up his new post in W.A. about 800 miles from Perth. Best of luck, Basil, and let's hope there are plenty of VKs to ZL3 break-throughs for the next few years.

6 m.x. DX has been very patchy once again and the only opening really worth reporting is from Keith Z2VL, who says that was an opening to ZL for about three hours on 3rd June and shorter openings earlier in the month. Roger Z2KH reports that VK4s and VK4s were lifting above the noise over the last part of week-ends, but not long enough to make a contact.

I had some notes from Max Z2MO at Raymond Terrace, but the main things are the same things—they still listen for a new post in W.A. but never hear anyone. Next month I will give more details of doings in the Hunter area, but for the moment we're running out of space. Thanks for the info. Mac and keep it coming.

Lastly, don't forget the new weekly Day Fox Hunt! Starts August 1st with Paul Z2PJ as Fox and starting place will be announced. (Watch "Bulletin" for this.)

That's for another month and keep me informed of what's going on please. Somebody must be interested! ZL, Z2BL.

VICTORIA

The V.h.f. Group meeting was held on 18th June at 478 Victoria Pde., East Melbourne. Z2JN was in the chair with some 40 persons present. The meeting was held in the presentation to Z2AA of his VHF100 Certificate, good going, Graham!

3ARZ reported that the last Fox Hunt was lost by 3A1T, which lost five pounds and was lost of "incidents" and was eventually won by Z2JF. The Fox Hunt is held on the second Wednesday of each month. The Fox is located east side of the "island" in College Crescent adjacent to the Founding Home. New starters are most welcome. Starting time, 8 p.m.

Discussed the N.R.D. on proposals to investigate some form of band planning on 144 Mc and 70 Cm. 3ARZ spoke on using 144.0-1.0 Mc. as a segment for country Amateurs—by restricting its use to station sub-id, a 30-mile radius of Melbourne. The Sec., Z2GP, described the R.S.G.B. 8 m.x. band plan, which divides the UK into zones, each zone using a particular segment of 8 m.x. and 70 Cm. Quite a few interested Amateurs spoke on the proposals and it was referred to the Investigating Committee to make firm proposals and submit them to all Amateurs.

The N.R.D. came up for discussion regarding the v.h.f. Field Day, and it was decided that the v.h.f. Field Day would cover the same hours as the N.Y.D.

A talk on 3 Cm gear by Z2GH, and ZALZ's 1296 Mc. d.s.o. followed, concluding with refreshments.

50 Mc. This band has been getting more than its share of activity with almost fortnightly DX openings and it has brought in quite a number of new stations on to the band. June 23 provided quite an interesting opening to ZL who went ZL3, and ZL3 was copying Channel 1 from Bendigo at the time. Seems to have its uses after all.

144 Mc. Although the weather has been really terrific, activity has been slow by the few stalwarts. 3VL at Numurkah is being worked regularly from Melbourne. Z2RH has been going and putting good signals into Melbourne. It is running up to 50W from ZL linear, ex Z2MV. It is also rumoured that Z2L might soon follow suit on 8 and 2 m.x.

VK4 6 A.M. Net: Since its inception some two months ago the net has been growing by the growth availability of xalls appears to be holding many back. Some 70 odd ex mobile radio-operators have taken up the net. The net has been distributed through VK3 discoms and a majority of these went to the country areas complete with a 592.5 Mc. crystal for the tx. In the metropolitan area, Z2GP, Z2GP, Z2GP, Z2GP, Z2GP are using modified units, while 3A1J (converted 525) and 3KCC are using normal beamers. There are s.a.b. available, plus a.s.m. on the frequency.

3ALZ is modifying units and has all the know-how. If you require your unit to be converted, you can charge for a reasonable charge. If you have any queries, contact 3ALZ (please enclose a.s.a. if writing). He has compiled an article for "A.R." which should appear soon. His home phone number is 308-191 and the best time to call is between 8-8 p.m. 73, Z2GP.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

50 Mc.: The poor level of activity on this band was relieved by an opening to VK4 on 33rd June at 1900 hrs. C.B.T. (Z2AE, who was worked by Z2K, Z2RH and others, offered the information that he had been viewing Channel 3 Lv from VK3, VK3, VK3 and VKY all the time he was in the area ending 33rd June). So it appears there may have been a few openings that we did not know of. This is more understandable when we consider that the weather has been so good for the air for about one month.

Glen Z2KE has a new mobile on 8 m.x. running about 50 to a 12BY7A. If Bob Z2FG doesn't write that article "A.R." on the VK3 beacon soon, I'll write the darned thing myself.

144 Mc.: Activity on this band is fairly low, the fellows seem to be concentrating on construction. Mick Z2DR had a 2 m.x. tx finishing up on an 8 m.x. v.i.o. (equivalent) as a straight amplifier driving a 3A1J. Mick Z2RH has a new crystal in the tx so that the 835A was being driven at 137 Mc. instead of 144 Mc. He has also lifted the cathode of the 835A off and fed in 2 to 3 watts from a 7 Mc. "Command" tx. There is then adequate drive to the 835A from this driver mixer. This battery-driven tx is very reliable. It is better than many crystal signals (not that this is saying much). It is refreshing to see that Mick is not losing the cathode of the 835A off and fed in 2 to 3 watts from a 7 Mc. "Command" tx. There is then adequate drive to the 835A from this driver mixer. This battery-driven tx is very reliable. It is better than many crystal signals (not that this is saying much). 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showed many of our locals' shortcomings in their gear which are being rapidly rectified.

49 Mc. Doug 6ZDW, Graham 6ZDB and Ken 6ZBT were one group who went mountain hunting. They tried sites at Mannington mill, 85 miles south of Perth, and Dunbury, 115 miles south of Perth. Quite good signals were heard at my QTH from both locations. Bill 6ZBJ has re-appeared on this band with a re-built tx using an 832 in the final. Glad to see you on again Bill. Mid-week activity lately is very slack, apparently the cold weather has made some shacks untenable.

144 Mc. Dennis 6AW and Brian 6ZDE ran the June Fox Hunt. They found a small cave in a limestone cliff right on the river's edge near Fremantle. The signal had the appearance of coming from anywhere but the source and when 30 yards away the tone could not be picked up on a snop loop. Tony 6ZDF and myself as co-pilot were the first of the only two teams to find the tx. Lance 6LR and Glen were second.

A solid core of 144 Mc. mobiles is being established and rather far reaching plans are afoot to increase these numbers. Narrow band f.m. is being considered as a likely standard for VKG and availability and adaptability of i.v. components is being studied.

488 Mc.: A proposed Gentlemen's Agreement for the frequency use of this band has been submitted to the Group by Don 6IK, who works in conjunction with several other Amateurs. The band has been divided into six segments, namely,

- 420 - 434.5 Mc.—Modulated oscillators.
- 434.5 - 435.5 Mc.—Amateur T.V.
- 435.5 - 437 Mc.—Guard Band.
- 437 - 438 Mc.—Xtal locked operation.
- 438 - 443 Mc.—Modulated oscillators.
- 443 - 450 Mc.—Amateur T.V.

These divisions may at first seem unnecessarily detailed, but they have been the product of some far-sighted clear thinking.

The two mod. osc. bands have been chosen to border the lower edge of the two t.v. bands as at this frequency the unwanted sideband will be extremely difficult to suppress and minimum interference is planned.

The two t.v. channels will enable simultaneous two-way t.v. contact and this is not too far in the future.

The xtal locked segment is chosen as 144 Mc. can be tripped into this part of the band and is the natural choice for this type of operation.

We in VKG hope these suggested segments will be acceptable to all States as a Gentlemen's Agreement. If they are, they could become an official W.I.A. Federal policy. Please let us know the views of other Groups on this matter as these frequencies should be thrashed out before too much equipment is constructed. A firm sound policy to this band will enable exchange of ideas from State to State and any v.h.f. Amateur changing his QTH interstate will not be loaded with useless gear.

I cannot stress the urgency of this matter too much as 1964 will be much too late to decide what we are going to do and where we are going to do it. 73. 6ZDM.

TASMANIA

The 50 meg. converter mentioned last month will be completed by the time this goes to press. The subject of lectures was brought up and it was decided that each member should take it in turn to describe his gear, that everyone can get some ideas on improving their equipment. The lecture this month was on the types of transceivers used in light aircraft, frequencies used, and the D.C.A. communications set-up in Tasmania, delivered by yours truly.

50 Mc.: At the time of writing, no DX reported on this band. The usual gang is active with the exception of 7EAV, whose power tranny went up in smoke for no apparent reason.

144 Mc.: Activity is still high and getting better all the time. Reg and Wilf, 7EAO and 7EAG, are re-modelling the 144 in the 7ig to improve its efficiency. Parallel lines are to be used as the tuned circuit and a blower is to be installed to keep the old 6/40 cool. 73. 7EAV.

Some news from 31E: 7BDQ and self are only active stations around here on 50 Mc. and we

only use it around Ross Hull times—have to be very careful with it.v.i.

On 144, it is a different story. At present there are 15 active stations around Launceston and another boy is awaiting his Z call. Some are only using low power, but the rx standard is good and beams range from 4 to 10 elements. When 7ZAI and 7ZAT were operating from Flinders is, last April 8 of 13 had consistent contacts up to 103 miles, so it's not too bad. 31E, 7JF, 7BQ, 7DK, 7ZJ, 7ZBR and 7ZBF are all at Launceston. 7ZEC at Evandale, 12 miles south of Launceston. 7RL, 7ZAH, Mr. Barrow, 4300 ft. up, 7ZF, 7ZBD, Postins, approx. 20 miles s.w. of Launceston, 1000 ft. up. 7ZSB is awaiting his full call: 7ZEC works into Hobart any time and is quite handy as a liaison when the band opens to VKG. At present I am unable to give frequencies as some changing around is going on and will give a list later.

7BR has almost completed his high power 144 gear and is due on any day. 7ZBH is active on 144 from Ulverston and is in Launceston on week-ends with mobile gear.

PAFUA

Very little v.h.f. news to report once again this month. 50/144 DX was heard during June. 49.8 and 49.9 Mc. ionospheric scatter stations were heard on seven days during the month. T.V. TNZ Translucide added a little variety to the rather sparse v.h.f. scene, reception being noted on 8nd, 3rd, 4th, 10th, 27th and 28th June. 9CK is a newcomer to 144 Mc. Murray has just completed a converter for this band. 73. 9CK.



CALL BOOK MAGAZINES

The Federal Treasurer of the W.I.A. again has for sale at £1 post paid a few back numbers of "Call Book Magazine," the great American directory of Amateurs. These have been used by W.I.A. Federal Officers and are in first-class condition. There are two editions, (1) United States only; (2) "Foreign" edition, that is to say, all Amateurs except Americans.

Apply to Bob Bosse, VK3NI, 80 Cordigan St., Carlton, Vic.

TECHNICAL ARTICLES

Readers are requested to submit articles for publication in "A.R." in particular constructional articles, photographs of stations and gear, together with articles suitable for beginners, are required.

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OH0, KL7, ZD8, ON4, LZ, FF8, VP8, XW8, 5H3, WO

Sub Editor: J. M. (Mac) HILLIARD, WIA-13074

57 Gardena Street, Blackburn, Victoria

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE FOR THIS PAGE DIRECT TO THE SUB EDITOR

If there follow twisters, here we are again with you. With the advent of the cold winter days, it does not inspire one to go out to the shack. That is if your shack is not in a house. So it may afford you an opportunity of getting your equipment ready for the forthcoming R.D. Contest. While on the subject of the R.D. make sure that you are quite conversant with the rules. There will be a few newcomers to the Contest this year and we would hate to hear that you had been disqualified because you had not read the rules properly. Best of luck to all of you in the Contest. Now what State is going to challenge VK3 this year?

As your scribe will be on holidays during the latter portion of August, I would appreciate it if you could let me have all correspondence by 10th of August. Any letters received after that date will have to be held over until the following month.

How many of you listen to the Voice of America's "Radio Amateur's Note Book"? This session can be heard every Sunday at 6.45 p.m. E.A.S.T. Sorry I can't give you the exact frequency, but have found that their transmission in the 31 mhz band to be best at the present time. Many interesting interviews and talks can be heard on this programme, which is conducted by Bill Leonard, W2KX.

Several years ago a Contest for S.W.'s in VK was organised and on acceptance from the S.W. S.W. groups were circulated on the details, but to the best of my knowledge not one Group notified us on what they thought about it. And until such time as more interest is shown by the S.W. groups, I will certainly not waste our time and effort on such projects. I know that we have more S.W.'s in VK than is generally known, and it is from you silent types that we want to hear, as well as the few regulars. So bow down to chance, let us see if we can't at least get the S.W. Groups into something really worthwhile.

All DXers will be interested to learn that there will soon be activity from ZD1. ZD7BW hopes to be going on a.s.b. by 7th August. There is also a good chance that ZD2SE will be on the air by 10th August. I will let Helen for some two years, so don't despair if you can't hear him at first.

VICTORIA

Several years ago we submitted two awards to Council. They were the DXCC award for confirmation on having confirmed 100 countries, and the Award of Merit. However, we would like to know if the award certificates are on hand at the present time.

At the last meeting of our Group, an illustrated tape lecture was presented. This lecture proved very popular with the members. The tape was one made available by courtesy of the VK3 Division. There were 25 members at the meeting, and our President Maurice also gave a short talk on a.s.b.

Now ZL3HJ has been unable to pay any attention to the bands for some time, due to health and personal reasons. Very sorry to learn of your news Noel, and do hope that you will be able to get back on the air. We will be able to again soon take an active part in our hobby. Recently Noel received a certificate from the Police Department for his services.

Richard Mills, of New York, is very keen to become a member of the W.I.A. He has already made moves to join. Well Richard, you will be most welcome on this DXCC.

Ron LZ878 recently purchased himself a grid dip oscillator and has been having fun with it since. He has been using it a lot, and has found that he is not getting enough inflection from the 144 Mc. oscillator and as a result, he has decided to purchase a new one. Hope you don't end up on 73 Mc. Ron, but with that g.d.o. you should be OK.

Maurie LZ383 has been very busy with studies and has been doing well in his studies. He has recently erected a 31 Mc. dipole but has found that it is no better than the 14 Mc. beam. Greg LZ138 is hearing plenty of DX and has been doing well in his studies. Had luck the photo was not so good, Greg, better have another try some time. Had a phone call from Mike, who is doing well in his studies. No. 11 xz at the moment as he

learned his other xz to his YL, whom we hope may become an active S.W. Mike is on the look out for a 14 Mc. converter.

There are several cards in at the QSL Bureau for LZ138 and LZ141, as if those members would be kind enough to forward a stamp addressed envelope to the QSL Manager (Eric Trebilcock) your QSLs will be sent on to you. There is also a card for a non-member whose surname is Mackenzie.

Eric LZ047 received 102 QSL cards during the month of May, but someone the fact that there were not many new ones amongst them. Well Eric, I am sure that most of us would fall over if we ever received that many in a month. At present Eric has been observing conditions on 160 meters. Like most of us, Eric is looking forward to the R.D. Contest and he is strongly urging you to make sure that you get your logs in early.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Chaz LZ111 has not been very active of recent weeks due to a number of reasons, and at the moment he is having a rest from S.W.ing. But no doubt Chaz will be back into the whole scene in the coming months. Don LZ023 is at the moment spending some leave up in VK4. Have a good holiday and don't, and he doesn't, rest from radio will also do you a power of good.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Our good friend, Peter LZ021 has been busy on the bands as usual, and he is rapidly rising on the DX Ladder. This month Peter has

been making some very active of recent weeks due to a number of reasons, and at the moment he is having a rest from S.W.ing. But no doubt Chaz will be back into the whole scene in the coming months. Don LZ023 is at the moment spending some leave up in VK4. Have a good holiday and don't, and he doesn't, rest from radio will also do you a power of good.

With a sigh, I must report that, as far as I can find out, Port Pirie is still the civilised capital of South Australia—has an Academy of Body Building, a University of the Unemployed citizens and it has some thoughts about the future of Amateur Radio. For the sake of anybody outside of this State, I will let Helen for some two years, so don't despair if you can't hear him at first.

For instance, let us see if we can't at least get the S.W. Groups into something really worthwhile.

At the last meeting of our Group, an illustrated tape lecture was presented. This lecture proved very popular with the members. The tape was one made available by courtesy of the VK3 Division. There were 25 members at the meeting, and our President Maurice also gave a short talk on a.s.b.

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spent more time on 14 Mc. That's a change, you, not to be had hand is it? Recently he erected a 7 Mc. folded dipole and has found an improvement. Peter mentions that 7 Mc. has been very good to W land of a morning. On 14 Mc., he has been hearing numerous Z8 and Z2 signs. Wish you would pass a few over this way, we do hear some of them. Peter still listens to many of the novices in W land. Thanks for your interesting letter, Peter, and good luck in the R.D. Contest.

GENERAL

Most of the Groups seem to be rather inactive. How about you all proving me wrong? The R.D. always gives us an indication of the activity, although we are aware that there are many S.W.'s that are not interested in it. We would like to provide you with more information on you to provide the news. See you in the "R.D.", 73, Mac.

DX LADDER

Countries	Zna.	S.a.b.	W
Conf. Hrd. Conf. Hrd. Stat.			
E. Trebilcock	181	359	30
D. Grantley	113	259	30
A. Westcott	83	199	31
H. Hillard	79	289	31
P. Draw	63	199	27
N. Harrison	44	119	28
I. Thomas	30	139	30
G. Earl	19	106	8
D. Coggin	10	92	7

YOUTH RADIO CLUBS

Half-witted Headmaster in Queensland who brushed off the Y.R.C. idea, but I can assure you that it is not uncommon. All high schools in the State have a Y.R.C. club.

Did you VKs see "The Age" of June 8? You surely saw the four-column photo of the leaders of Eighth Footers Scout Troop at their transmission. R.A.S. 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Recent additions in VK3 are at Hurstville Technical College and Cranbrook School (both in Sydney, in case you can find your way on a road map). I am looking forward to getting some details from Hurstville T.C. Secretary, Mr. Brian Burton. The Headmaster was dead-keen for me to start a Y.R.C. I have already had my first meeting and we are on the way to about 60 boys wanted to join, but we cut it down to 30 for a start. We are working in a beautiful new science block and will very soon apply for a license for the new science stuff. Brian, I know you'll enjoy it, and I hope all the other G.P.S. becomes envious. You can show them what they are missing: a Y.R.C. in Canberra, the word still spreads. The fanatic from Lynnhall, Right Hon. George IQB, put on a show at the Police Boys' Club to publicise the start of a new radio club in there under Mr. J. Gahanakis. The "Canberra Times," like any other newspaper, respects our news value and printed a report and a prominent photo. You Nut leaders should remember that all publicity helps—as long as you're on the right side of it. In addition, a new group met at Dickson (an ex-civil group of 25) and the new Nut three high schools, Police Boys' Club, and Canberra Radio Society all doing something. Our ex-civil group of 25 is the new Nut, rabidly High without a leader. I'm hoping they'll be the fourth high school some day soon.

P.S. for PS—Please don't have so many of your flock counted twice or three times. Surely you couldn't have 120 at a meeting and 120 at another? The Y.R.C. in Canberra happens about Youth Radio Clubs: 73, 1KM, 1000.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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Applicants must be in robust health and have experience in outdoor life such as ski-ing, mountaineering, bush-walking, etc. Applications must be accompanied by a recent photograph and should be forwarded to:—

The Director, Antarctic Division, Department of External Affairs, 568 St. Kilda Rd., Melbourne, S.C.3.

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FEDERAL AND DIVISIONAL MONTHLY NEWS REPORTS

(SEND CORRESPONDENCE DIRECT TO DIVISIONAL REPORTER NAMED AT PARA. END)

FEDERAL

F.E. MEETING, 3/7/68

General Business Two members brought the matter of the possession of a heterodyne frequency meter as a condition of issuance of a full license to the attention of the meeting, and as a result of discussion it was decided to determine exactly what equipment apart from a heterodyne meter was acceptable, it being pointed out in discussion that some approved types of wavemeters are inferior in accuracy to methods apparently unacceptable to the Department.

It was reported that the draft minutes of the Federal Convention were now complete and would be distributed as soon as possible.

It was also reported that due to difficulties with the Indian Government regulations, it had proved so far impossible to deliver the valves collected for Indian radio, it being decided to approach the problem again, the period of elapsed time being considerable.

Executive viewed with concern the deletion of Federal material from the published notes. It was pointed out that the publication of a PRECIS of F.E. minutes was the subject of a directive by Federal Council at the last Convention, and was directed that the Editor of "A.R." be consulted on the matter.

Other matters of importance were discussed, but unfortunately, due to their presently confidential nature, details cannot be disclosed at this time.

VIEWIA BROADCASTS

It is intended that regular broadcasts from this station should commence within a month. It is intended that the transmissions should include items of a nature not usually covered by State Broadcasts—Federal News, High Speed Morse Transmissions, Technical Lectures, and any other material having a national interest. It is also proposed that the station will be open for personal contact, when necessary, can have direct contact with Federal Executive, as well as being employed in regular communication with members of Federal Council.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND RADIO CLUB

The following letter was recently received from the Secretary of the C.I.R.C. and was considered to be of much interest, and is worth publishing in full, as follows:—

Secretary, W.I.A.
Dear OM,

We of Christmas Island, Indian Ocean, consider it may be of an importance for all islanders interested in Amateur Radio as it marks the inauguration of the Christmas Island Amateur Radio Club. A copy of our constitution is enclosed herewith.

You will be interested to hear that we already have approx. 40 enthusiastic members of all ages, Indian, Chinese, Malay and European and that the traditional spirit of Amateur Radio prevails.

The Club has been promoted by Don Reed, VK2DR, who was elected the post of Publicity Officer in our Club. Don is a member of the VK4 Division. Don has been in correspondence with Rex JAYV, VK2FJ, and we have asked VK2FJ to arrange despatch of the first batch of certificates. We are awaiting instruction papers provided by the VK4 Division, and are ready to meet them to assist our lecturers. Amicitia is sought with W.I.A. as per our constitution and we would be pleased to receive information and the necessary documents to enable this matter to be finalised. Individual members will be encouraged to join the W.I.A. Please send application forms.

Through the kindness of the British Phonograph Commissioners we have the use of a very fine Ham Radio shack, complete with lecture room, operating room and workshop.

We have all instructional facilities including a recorder and an epidioscope.

We would very much appreciate receiving any instructional tapes available (these can be dubbed and returned promptly). Also any back copies of "A.R.", "R. & R.", "CQ.", "QST", Handbooks, etc. for our library.

Useful junk surplus disposals gear of any type and description, which some W.I.A. member may care to send to the Club would help us immensely as there are practically no stores available on the Island. The B.P.C. will send any items freight free to Christmas Island if delivered to their receiving depot in each State. Shipping contact, however, is more regular from Melbourne and Fremantle.

Our lads are very keen and we trust that the Club's efforts will be the means of guiding many Asian lads to a successful electronic occupation apart from his interest in Ham Radio.

QSL Officer, Ron Ashley, will see that QSL is 100 per cent through the BureauX. Although VK2DR is the only licensed Amateur on our roll at present, it is probable that we will have more active firms in the near future. Appropriate publicity in "A.R." would be appreciated and we trust that QSL cards from Christmas Island will appear shortly in many a DX bound's shack.

(Sgd.) T. L. Menon, Hon. Secretary.

FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

As from 8th June the new address of the A.R.R.I. is Main Street, Newington 11, Conn., U.S.A.

The R.S.G.B. 7 M.C. DX Contest is to be held on Oct. 19/20 and Nov. 2/3 and the time being 0001 G.M.T. to 2300 G.M.T. in each instance. The first period is for phone and the second period for c.w. The Contest is between 1.8 and 30 Mc. and covers all stations only. Further details from this Bureau and logs to be sent to R.S.G.B. not later than 15th Nov. 1967.

The R.S.G.B. staged its Golden Jubilee celebrations in London between 1st and 8th July. The DX-pedition to PY6 (Trinidad), due to have taken place in operation in July, did not take place. Trinidad is a military installation of the Brazilian Government and PY6AS could not obtain permission to work from that location.

Claim forms for the Okinawa Awards sponsored by the KJIS Radio Club may be obtained from this Bureau.

Due to increasing costs, the Radio Sports Federation of the U.S.B.R. has announced the following changes for its Awards: RISM, RIMO and WJOP Awards—14 I.R.C. RISM, RIMO, RIK and Komos Award—10 I.R.C. All applications to Box 28, Moscow, U.S.B.R. Philippine Amateurs have formed a society known as Philippines Amateur Radio League (P.A.R.L.) with address at 87 Espina Extension Street, Quezon City, Philippines. The QSL Bureau should be notified.

The R.S.G.B. advises that it has no connection with a body called the Radio Club of Scotland and all cards for GM should continue to be sent through the R.S.G.B. Bureau, Bromley, Kent, England.

—Ray James, VK2RJ, Manager.

NEW SOUTH WALES

INSIDE BRANCH

The last note did not include a report of the June meeting of the Branch, so both June and July meetings will be reported this month. At the June meeting, the President, Les JBJ, gave a report on the Branch's progress and the chair. Because of this, the business session of the meeting was very short and the rest of the evening time was taken by the lectures. Neil ZCZU chose as his subject "Audio for Your Transmitter" and after displaying a particularly neat piece of equipment, showed how it was possible to compensate for various audio sources' deficiencies and put out a clean audio signal. Jan Z2IF then described his efficiency method of modulation, enabling 100% to be run mobile to a 6/6A.

Again a well built sample of gear was shown and both lecturers are to be complimented on the thorough treatment of the subject and the well made rigs.

At the July meeting there were again two lecturers who spoke about the design and construction of the redstone 18-22 units for use on 2 and 6 m.x. Those responsible were Wayne Murray and Bill ZCZV. Again these were very practical and each lecturer was able to answer questions about the finer points of the inside bits. Then began a film show. Frank JAYO supplied the film and Rodney ZCZU showed them to the fifty present in room 15. Yes, that's fifty—a remarkable roll-up again. The first two films were pretty routine technical stuff presented in a non technical way and the third film was a cartoon. This was really an uproarious end to a good evening and following a vote of thanks moved by Chris ZFZ, we all clapped loudly and went home.

Probably the most remarkable piece of news this month concerns Frank ZFC who was actually heard on the air! As it was in regard to the Monday broadcast, we hope that Frank will continue to call and even share some of our concerns. He is a very good and reliable well. Les ZQB is a regular attendee at the meetings, but that story about blown fuses preventing the r.f. from getting started, can't be true, can it? What about it Les and Harold and Harry and Lola more—let's hear you!

Jim ZAH7 has the new exciter for s.b. so I am told and works everyone with the greatest of ease, even though one or two references has fallen off the beam. "It's all this windy weather," says Jim. "It's all that r.f.," say we. The apparent uselessness of 40 as a frequency contact No. eight has caused Bill ZXT to go on 80 mobile, and even without a proper whip a good signal is heard. ZAYL is also busy between night and day, and no electronics are involved—it's the Jaguar.

Quite a lot of thought of late has been given to Amateur U.V. and among those known to be interested are David ZCZC, Roy ZCZC and Les ZRJ. Whether the interest is in transmission or reception is not known, but Les at least is attending the Tech. to learn some more.

Because of the Jaguar, Stan has enlisted the aid of Mac Z2MO with the QSL Bureau. This, Mac does in his spare time, when he's not out collecting or letting off crackers. Stuart ZAYF is busy with some s.b. gear, nevertheless has been putting out his d.c. bands signal since 1st July. It's active! It's 1 meg, and has a solid signal on that band.

One of these nights soon we'll have some of the boys giving lectures at the meeting, and we'll have a new programme called "Forty-Quick" by Sherwood, "My All Band Fence" by Bruce Morley, "DX-pedition to Stockton," by Les Payne, and "How to Copy to Memory" by Les Payne. "Antenna" by an anonymous Marnong resident.

In the far wastes of Wallend or Cardiff, or wherever it is, John Z2JG has found enough time between night service calls to build a new shack so that he can get on high power and work some 144 Dog X-Ray out by the sea. He's got a 500 watt 1000 cycle DX is Tony Z2CT since he put up the new beam and Des Z2DN is having particular success with the mobile on 2 m.x. Ray Z2KW has a crystal converter for a 500 WZWM has cured the modulator troubles on the Minitrax, Len Z2FD and Charlie, whose 600 watt amplifier he has been repairing, should soon be on 144. Ernie Z2FF may have success sooner than he expected as 28 Mc. has been suggested as the cross-town band for 28 Mc. and G has no reason why it should not be the same here.

So that's about it for another month, but you won't forget to be at the Hunter Branch meeting on Wednesday 10th July. It will be as usual in Room 25, classroom block at the University College and in response to popular demand will be another Do It Yourself night with members discussing and describing their own gear. This is a warmup for the October meeting which will be similar to the last one. So get your gear ready to keep up with the latest news, listen to VK-2AWX on Mondays at 7 p.m. E.S.T. for the Hunter Branch Broadcast, and please call in, whether on a.m., s.b., or c.w. 70, ZAXX.

lobbying campaign around Shepparton. 15 active and dormant Amateurs have agreed to meet on 18th July to discuss further the possible formation of a P.R.C. With the number of potential adult amateurs we anticipate involving a roster of three per club meet, meaning only one meeting per month per head.

Some of the tone notes contain a smattering of good natured banter (refer dig to SP8, for example) and this makes easy digestion of normally stereotypical reporting. Arthur (not of M.A.D. fame) informs me that my comment re K1000's Trophy damage caused consternation amongst the previous holders. If my feeble efforts to emulate the aged ex-tons were unsuccessful, I beg forgiveness. T3, SASV.

SOUTH WESTERN ZONE

Gordon JAGV, of Colac, has had a two-way QSO with Bill 3XE of Mexham on 144 MC. Bill 3WK of Wangoom is been working on modulator. John XIV and Stan SSE are to be the proud owners of very nice ASB rig from the States. Ted 3PB is back on the job again and is known for his o.w. John JAGD came on recently on Thursday night's zone hook-up. Keep it up, John. JAKR not heard.

Harry JCI hopes to go portable and mobile some day. John 3KJ to keep you on the air shortly. 3EQ hopes to be back on the air shortly, maybe on 40 MC. Bill 3WK is the specialist on about coming on the air. John 3AEZ, hopes to be very active from now on with Scout Jamboree of the Air later in year. Also JCI hopeful of going portable to the local Scout camp when the Jamboree is on. T3 Bill Wines.

MOORABBIN & DISTRICT RADIO CLUB

Activities for the Club this last month have been such as to leave members a trifle exhausted. On Friday, 14th July, we had a QSO suction night, where bargains galore were obtained. Many of our younger members were seen about the room. On Saturday, 15th July, the July monthly meeting was followed by a W.I.A. taped lecture on balloons. The tape, together with accompanying slides, provided an informative evening.

On Saturday, 27th July, members of the Club were treated to a most interesting evening held at the home of Wally JAEZ. Noticed the XYLs getting together for a good old session too. Don't blame them either. Elmer, you should hear the way the OMs carry on about the XEs, etc., that got away. Drive any gal fair up the wall. Congratulations to Ken 32NJ who has received his certificate for the last Ross Hall, being top scorer in VKX. Congrats are also to order for Andy 32AK who has just received his call. They tell me he has just finished his rx and will soon be appearing on 2 mhz with complete "home-brew" station. Jolly good show Andy.

Noticed that Harold 3ATQ is now on 160 mhz with carrier control, running 39w, to a base loaded quarry wave vertical. He also has his 3 mhz clover-leaf strung up under the rafters in his shack and can be "heard" on the band running 15w, to a 333. What happened to "Mama Brew" Harold? Lindsay 32NS has re-appeared on 2 mhz, apparently having temporarily recovered from his attack of YLI. How long for Lins? And fancy, a 6 mhz converter!

The club is considering starting a net on 2 mhz a.m. somewhere above 145 MC. Maybe this is the reason for the rumours about Peter 2XX and 3AFD coming on to the band soon. Ken 3ACS seems to be getting a lot of fun out of being control station. Three times in a row.

V.H.f. members have been active in the s.h.f. bands doing some very interesting experiments. Keep at it fellows. Peter 32PC is madly preparing for a 2 mhz DX-pedition to VK4 in the coming holidays. Have fun Peter. David 32OF is busily constructing a high power final for his Channel O t.v. producer. Yours truly (Bob) is again active on 2 mhz after an absence of some weeks. Who muttered something about "Zero Radiating Dipole"? Alf 3LC is also to be heard on 2 mhz after many moons of absence. Welcome back Alf.

Don't forget the mid-year natal party to be held on 2nd August and also bear in mind

the next general meeting on the 16th. Information regarding Club activities can be obtained from Harold (our Secretary you know) 3ATQ. T3, 32HD

— . . . —

QUEENSLAND

TOWNSVILLE AND DISTRICT

I must thank Bert 4LB for sending in the last month's notes for me as I was flat on my back in hospital, recovering from the operation. Glad to report that I am almost 100 per cent, again and will be back again at work long ere these notes are read.

Conditions still are waning with the result that the locals are not on the bands very much. That makes it very hard to find news to keep the notes going. Sorry to report that Claude 4UX is going to relinquish the sub-editorship for the VK4 Division. It seems that the Sunshine State finds it very hard to interest anyone in performing this task. No doubt each one has found it hard to get the doings on what the boys are doing as all the correspondents seem to fall by the wayside as the enthusiasm wanes after a while.

It seems that at long last the years have caught up with our old friend, Arthur 4FE, who retires at the end of August for a well earned rest and will be leaving Normanston early in September for a spot of leave before taking up residence in the big smoke. Now Arthur will be able to do all that DXing he wants to do. Ted 4EZ surprised the gang the other night as he went QRT for the evening meal as soon as the XYL called. He must have seen the light at last. What did the Five Dock boy say?

Bert 4LB is having strife with the tx, cannot find the final current to the stipulated level as the circuit says. Charlie 4BQ still holds the fort on the Kookaburra Seesaw; must be his secret since as I find it hard copy them. Allen 4BE and John 4DD still pop up on the air to exchange reports on the doings of the band. Since the bottom fell out the thermometer during last week, the noise level has increased out of all proportion and only very good signals can override same. No news from the Cairns boys so had better pay them a visit again and find out why no reports. Don't forget you locals, the Scouts promise to roll up this year for the Jamboree. Forget about what happened last year and help out this time. T3, 4RW.

WIDE BAY AND BUNNETT BRANCH

Frank 4FN, of the Central Qld. Branch, passed through our territory recently, driving the 15 Holden barracks like Father Neptune on a visit up to the city, and a little later as he journeyed home in triumph, one of the enemy drove past him in great haste in his chariot and flung a thunderbolt at him, and so Frank drove home the rest of the way without a wince and no cold ears.

I don't know just what the trouble is, whether it is the old man with the syphilis catching up or if he is trying to economise, but Gordon 4GH has been heard—did I say heard?—on the air lately having omitted to turn on the modulator tap. Never mind Gordon, make out a list, pin it on the wall and tick off the items as you go through. You know, (i) have I switched on the heater, (ii) the h.t., (iii) the modulator, (iv) serial to transmit position, etc.

Jimmy 4HZ is busy bedding down his bees for the winter. An ideal. Why not pipe a little soft sweet music to each hive, like "The Lullaby of the Bees", to keep them happy and contented over the cold dull winter months? A little later on when the birds appear, again play them "Spring Song" with gusto to urge them to be up and at it. But apart from his bees, Jimmy is giving consideration to planting a few more antennae on his antenna farm, to share all the power when he gets the new rig on the air. He recently paid a visit to Herb 4KM, of Mundubbera. I wonder what they talked about?

The Bundaberg class is making good progress. They even have a "Gentleman of the Club" taking his regular dose of ergs. Some of the boys there are still waiting for their call signs, while others have theirs allocated. Bill Sebbens in 4ZWA, Roy Spotted in 4ZWA and with 4ZWN already operating, the boys will be thinking they are working America with all the "W" call signs.

Bought a copy of "Woman's Day" 19th June I think it was, and saw a write up and some pictures on Rusty 4JM and Josyn 4JJ, telling the world all about their Ham activities.

The Bundaberg Club is negotiating with the City Council for the use of the East Bundaberg water tower (i.e. the rooms under the tower) as their club rooms. If the rig runs hot, it should not be too much trouble to install water cooling, or as has been pointed out, the water tower is not intended to be used as a tank circuit. T3, Fred Cox.



ADJUSTING THE WHIP

S.W. Wines (right), of Warrambool, is seen making adjustments to the whip aerial on the rear of his car while Stuart VK3MS, of Mount Gambier, looks on. Both members attended the South Western Zone Convention. (Block courtesy of "Warrambool Standard")



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